

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 91

MONDAY APRIL 18, 2011

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



POLL RESULTS

Do you agree that there is a present need to re-examine the political relationship between the Commonwealth and the United States?

Yes	76
No	69
No opinion	3

Sunday, April 17, 2011

INSIDE



Timeline Set

The operator of the radiation-leaking plant embroiled in Japan's worst-ever nuclear power disaster said Sunday that it had drawn up a timeline for resolving the crisis.

Asia...Page 16



Rocket Offensive

Moammar Gadhafi's forces poured rocket fire after dawn Saturday into Misrata.

World...Page 17



Cage Arrested

Actor Nicolas Cage was arrested after he got drunk in the city's French Quarter.

Life & Style...Page 21

**Govendo orders release of \$415,000 to Malite heirs. PAGE 5
Thai community celebrates Songkran. PAGE 13**

CPUC approves new LEAC rate

» Effective April 16, 2011 existing \$0.28125 per kWh rate will become \$0.34426

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After four hours of extensive deliberation on a number of petitions by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission juked on Friday night the recommended electric base rate hike petition but approved the 22-percent increase in the current leveled energy adjustment clause (LEAC) in consideration of the unprecedented increases in world oil prices.

See CPUC on Page 4

Chamber 'strongly objects' to power rate hikes, pushes for privatization of CUC

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce says it is strongly objecting to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s overall increased utility rates for businesses and residents and called on CUC to go after non-paying customers, even as the



Brennan

Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission approved on Friday night CUC's proposed leveled energy adjustment clause increase but disapproved an electric base rate hike.

"CUC's collection accounts are in horrible arrears. Until such time as those outstanding private and government accounts are retired, SCC strongly objects

See CHAMBER on Page 4

YOUTH LEADERS

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Supreme Court Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan, along with Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), pose with the seven members of the 13th CNMI Youth Congress led by Speaker Shelane Dela Cruz Borja, seated-center, during the youth senators' inaugural session Saturday on Capitol Hill.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story on Page 2

ON MARPI POWER POLES INSTALLATION TRO

Buckingham says they will review substantive and procedural issues

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham yesterday said to determine how best to respond they will review Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo's decision that ordered the CNMI government to temporarily stop

See \$15 FEE on Page 4

See BUCKINGHAM on Page 4

'Idea behind proposed \$15 fee for tourists comes from US tourism law'

» As Inos says no taker yet on CNMI offer of hosting Japanese affected by quake, tsunami

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said on Saturday that the idea behind the CNMI's proposed \$15 travel and promotion fee for

passengers from non-U.S. countries came from a travel promotion law that President Barack Obama signed in 2010.

Under the Travel Promotion Act, which creates a non-profit body to pro-

See \$15 FEE on Page 4

iCONNECT
iconnectsaipan.com
GUAM/SAIPAN OFFICE 888.8888

*Free phone models subject to availability and its replacement is at discretion of management. Subject to 12-month contract. Unlimited Nights and Weekends include PTT and local calls only. Some conditions apply.

**VALUE PLANS
TO FIT ANY BUDGET
UNLIMITED local SMS
UNLIMITED Nights and Weekends**

**AS LOW AS
\$25*
/month**



Local



Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), and other lawmakers pose with the seven members of the 13th CNMI Youth Congress during the youth senators' inaugural session Saturday on Capital Hill.

Blackberry Curve 8520 Smartphone

Easter Special



**BlackBerry® Curve™
8520 smartphone**

- Wireless Email
- BlackBerry® Browser
- 2MP Camera
- Video Camera Capabilities
- Multimedia Player
- Wi-Fi
- Bluetooth
- Organizer
- 256MB Flash Memory

\$99*

BlackBerry Curve™

©2011 Research In Motion Limited. All rights reserved. BlackBerry®, RIM®, Research In Motion® and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world.

**Includes
ONE FREE
MONTH
ACCESS**

*Conditions apply. 12 month agreement required. Must sign up on minimum rate of 300 minutes (\$25.00), WNE (\$10.00) and BB Data (\$49.50). Includes (1) month FREE Access Service. See stores for additional details. Offer valid from April 11th to April 30th or while supplies last.

docomo **DOCOMO PACIFIC**
The Choice is Clear

483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

Borja is speaker of 13th CNMI Youth Congress

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seventeen-year-old Shelane D. Borja was elected as speaker of the 13th CNMI Youth Congress during its inaugural session Saturday morning when all seven youth senators-elect were sworn into office.

Borja is the daughter of Raymond and Tamara Borja and a student of Saipan Southern High School.

She extended her gratitude to the vote of confidence received from her colleagues and vowed to lead the young leaders to achieve the ultimate mission

of serving for the benefit and interest of young people in the Commonwealth.

"I believe that there is much work to be done for the youths of CNMI. I trust that this year's YC will do many great things and I look forward to working together with my fellow senators," she said, adding that her first year serving the Youth Congress helped her to become a better youth and person.

Among her leadership priorities include the creation and enforcement of more effective educational campaigns for students and out-of-school youths, improve the worsening data of drop-outs in schools, providing more pro-active steps in addressing issues of teen-pregnancy, peer pressure, alcohol and drugs, as well as bringing youths to higher level of understanding about government and community issues.

In understanding the very limited resources for the Youth Congress, Borja aims to conduct fundraisers that would help the group conduct youth activities and projects.

She also vowed to follow the advice of Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan to collaborate with the PSS youth advisory panels in schools to better help the youth in all three islands.

Borja won the seat by acclamation along with Marianas High School's Audrey Joy Ada, who was elected vice speaker; Rota High School's Thomas Henry Barcenas, who is the group's floor leader; and Kagman High School's Mercedes Mesa, who was voted legisla-

tive secretary. Other members of the Youth Congress include Tinian High School's Marquina Hofsneider, Grace Christian Academy's Angela Mamaril, and Marianas Baptist Academy's Manatsu Omori.

In his message, Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos said that it is the aim of the Youth Congress to groom younger generations to craft and propose sound policy decisions.

"Young people are known for being passionate and outspoken. You must learn to temper your zeal with respect and knowledge. Do your homework on the issues, and you will be able to speak and act with wisdom and conviction. Bring your bills before the Legislature for consideration. While you are here, seek to master the skills of negotiation and partnership. These abilities will benefit you in any field of work you choose to pursue," added Inos.

Other guest speakers during the inaugural session were Senate President Paul Manglona, House Speaker Eli Cabrera, Chief Justice Miguel Demapan, members of the Legislature, cabinet secretaries, education officials, parents, and members of the community.

Other people who spoke during the session's public comment included Education Commissioner Rita Sablan, Rep. Joseph Palacios, Sen. Jovita Taimanao, press secretary Angel Demapan, Rep. Fredrick Leon Guerrero, Kagman High School principal Alfred Ada, and Tinian High School principal Julian Hofsneider.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax, (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.** at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
a. CDBG Updates

IV. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM
a. USDA RD Matters
b. Other Loan Matters

V. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

Fitial: Legislature can now permit transfer of leasehold interests in public land

» **Inos says admin backs private land leases extended beyond 55 years**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said a 2010 Supreme Court ruling does clear the way for the Legislature to permit transfers of leasehold interests in public land that exceed 25 years as it deems fit.

This is part of Fitial's April 5 letter to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), saying that as a result of the court ruling, the Legislature may repeal or amend 2 CMC 4115 "as it sees fit (e.g., by permitting transfers of leasehold interests in public land that exceed 25 years)."

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, at the same time, said on Saturday that the Fitial administration backs proposals to extend private land leases from the current maximum of 55 years or 75 or 99 years, depending on the Legislature's proposal.

A pending Senate legislative initiative seeks to extend private land leases from 55 years to 99



Fitial

years.

Sen. Luis Crisostimo's (Ind-Saipan) initiative seeks to revitalize major investments in the CNMI, and will also revive the real estate market that will in turn benefit landowners, real estate brokers, and investors.

Fitial's two-page letter to Manglona was about a further review of a 2010 Supreme Court decision and Article 12.

The letter was sent a day after Fitial and Inos met with Manglona and other senators, and after receiving a legal review from the attorney general.

In that letter, Fitial said DPL v. Commonwealth, 2010 MP 10 relates to Article 11 (Public Lands), not Article 12, of the NMI Constitution.

Quoting the AG's review, Fitial said the Supreme Court found that Section 5 of Article XI had expired by its own terms and that the operational restrictions on the Department of Public Lands—the predecessor of the Marianas Public

Land Corp.—were now wholly statutory.

Fitial said the court's principal holding is directly contrary to any notion that the Legis-

See **FITAL** on Next Page

YTT GOLD Jewelry 元通金行

We buy gold and we do Pawn Service

Good Reputation Since 1989

Tel. No.: 233-2368

Business Hours: 1pm - 9pm
Located behind Duty Free and Star Sands Plaza

Diabetic?

Visit the Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye Care

Why?

- Advanced Technologies
 - State of the art diagnostic equipment
 - Advanced lasers and surgeries
- Newest Vision Saving Treatments
- Top Doctors
 - Mark Robertson, OD
Magna Cum Laude
 - David Khorram, MD
America's Top Ophthalmologists
Researcher in Diabetic Eye Care



Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

235-9090

Beach Road, Garapan

www.MarianasEye.com

TAX ASSISTANCE SERVICES (ALL KINDS OF TAXES)

LP ACCOUNTING

Rm. 608, 6th Floor Marianas Business Plaza
(formerly Nauro Building)
Business Hours: 8:00am - 7:00pm (Mon. - Fri.)
8:00am - 6:00pm (Saturday)

Tel: 234-3800, 285-3900

contact Loida or one of our friendly staffs

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **April 20**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **April 20**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **April 20**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:
SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Lalau/Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

OUTRAGEOUS OVERSTOCK LIQUIDATION SALE

We bought excess 2011 production at special pricing and now we're passing the savings directly to you!

MAZDA		
	SALE PRICE	OUTRAGEOUS DISCOUNT
ID045 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS	\$14,995	\$3,000
ID051 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS	\$14,995	\$3,000
ID052 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS	\$14,995	\$3,000
ID053 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS	\$14,995	\$3,000
ID054 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS	\$14,995	\$3,000
ID041 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ALLOY WHEELS	\$16,995	\$2,000
ID046 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ALLOY WHEELS	\$16,995	\$2,000
ID055 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ALLOY WHEELS	\$16,995	\$2,000
MAZDA3i		
ID038 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
ID040 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
ID043 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
ID044 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
ID047 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
ID048 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
ID049 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
ID050 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$17,995	\$3,000
MAZDA5i SPORT		
2D002 2012MY4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$22,995	\$3,000
2D003 2012MY4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$22,995	\$3,000
CX-9 SPORT		
ID056 4CYL. A/T 2WD 6 AIRBAGS ALLOY WHEELS	\$23,995	\$3,000
ID057 4CYL. A/T 2WD 6 AIRBAGS ALLOY WHEELS	\$23,995	\$3,000
ID032 SAME AS ABOVE W/ CONVENIENCE PKG.	\$24,995	\$4,000
ID042 SAME AS ABOVE W/ TOURING PKG.	\$26,995	\$4,000
CX-9 TOURING		
ID034 V6 A/T 6 AIRBAGS 18" ALLOY WHEELS LEATHER	\$31,995	\$5,000
ID058 V6 A/T 6 AIRBAGS 18" ALLOY WHEELS LEATHER	\$31,995	\$5,000
ID059 V6 A/T 6 AIRBAGS 20" ALLOY WHEELS LEATHER GT PKG. AWD	\$39,995	\$5,000

SHOOT TO WIN EVEN MORE!

TRADE-INS WELCOMED
Please bring the following:

1. Current driver's license 2. Recent paycheck stub 3. Trade Title or Payoff

H HYUNDRD

ACCENT GLS		
	SALE PRICE	OUTRAGEOUS DISCOUNT
IH025 4CYL. A/T PWR WINDOWS/LOCKS	\$14,995	\$1,000
GENESIS COUPE 2.0T		
IH020 4CYL. TURBO AT 8 AIRBAGS ABS	\$23,995	\$3,000
IH035 4CYL. TURBO AT 8 AIRBAGS ABS	\$23,995	\$3,000
IH036 4CYL. TURBO AT 8 AIRBAGS ABS	\$23,995	\$3,000
AZERA GLS		
IH025 V6 A/T 8 AIRBAGS 4WHEEL ABS	\$24,995	\$4,000
TUCSON		
IH030 GL 2WD 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$19,995	\$3,000
IH031 GL 2WD 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$19,995	\$3,000
IH034 GLS 2WD 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$20,995	\$3,000
IH029 GLS 2WD 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$21,995	\$3,000
IH033 GLS AWD 4CYL. A/T 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$21,995	\$3,000
VERACRUZ GLS		
IH018 V6 A/T 2WD 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$26,995	\$4,000
IH037 V6 A/T 2WD 6 AIRBAGS ABS	\$26,995	\$4,000

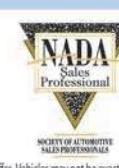
USED CAR CLEARANCE

YEAR	MAKE/MODEL	MILEAGE	REDUCED PRICE	YEAR	MAKE/MODEL	MILEAGE	REDUCED PRICE
2009	Hyundai Genesis GLS	14,240	\$27,995	2005	Mazda Mazda6i	54,582	\$10,995
2010	Mazda RX-8 Sport	5,560	\$22,995	2006	Mazda Mazda3i	48,688	\$9,995
2008	Jeep Wrangler X-Sport	23,962	\$19,995	2006	Hyundai Tucson GL	65,104	\$9,995
2008	Hyundai Veracruz	24,328	\$18,995	2006	Ford Escape XLT	87,769	\$8,995
2009	Hyundai Tucson GL	6,876	\$16,995	2006	Hyundai Tucson GL	92,184	\$7,995
2008	Hyundai Tucson GL	68,905	\$12,995	2005	Ford Taurus SEL	45,161	\$6,995



TRIPLE J MOTORS

Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm • Sat: 8am-5pm
Beach Road, Chalan Lalau 234-7133
www.carssaipan.com



YOUR NADA CERTIFIED SALES TEAM, ASK FOR US BY NAME!



*Some conditions apply. Registration and documentation fees not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. **Only while current supplies last. Total price is \$21,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 9.95% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$373.43 or \$172 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is \$22,405.80.

FITIAL**From Page 3**

lature might be able to exempt DPL from the land alienation restrictions of Article 12.

"The court was explicit that, while DPL's operational authority now derives exclusively from the Legislature, any legislative enactment with respect

to DPL must still be constitutional (P 24). In no way does the Court suggest that the Legislature has the power to authorize DPL, or anyone, to transfer leasehold interests of greater than 55 years to non-NMDs as prohibited by Article 12," he said.

But Fitial said "in a positive note, the Court's ruling does clear the way for the Legislature to repeal or amend 2 CMC 4115 as it sees fit."

BUCKINGHAM**From Page 1**

the installation of power poles in Marpi.

"There are some preliminary concerns of a legal nature, but cases are best tried in the courtroom, not in the media," said Buckingham in a press statement.

As to the question whether the lawsuit filed by a concerned group called Friends of Marpi should remain in Superior Court, the AG said it is not appropriate to comment on legal strategy.

However, he added, it is fair to say that the Commonwealth will carefully review both substantive and procedural issues to ensure that the law is followed in the appropriate forum.

On Friday, Govendo granted the Friends of Marpi's motion for a temporary restraining order to momentarily stop the CNMI government from installing more power poles in Marpi.

Govendo ordered that the two remaining poles not be installed and that

electric wires should not be connected until a full blown evidentiary hearing is done.

The evidentiary hearing will be held on April 29 at 9am.

The judge said he granted the TRO because constitutional rights should be taken into consideration.

Under the project, 43 power poles are to be installed from the Veterans Cemetery and Public Cemetery near Banzai Cliff to the main road and on to the Buddhist temple.

The Friends of Marpi and co-plaintiffs, through counsel David G. Banes, asserted, among other things, that the lawsuit is to preserve the Marpi area from destructive development as it is an historic and scenic landmark. He said the U.S. government has recognized the significance of the site, registering it as a national historic landmark.

In response to Govendo's granting of TRO, Buckingham said he respects the judge's ruling.

"While I wish the legal conclusion provided the Senate more flexibility, I am glad we have a clear understanding on the continued status of Article 12," Fitial added. Article 12 restricts the fee simple sale of CNMI real property exclusively to persons of Northern Marianas descent and other constitutionally qualified individuals based on certain political definitions.

"The issuance of a TRO is the first, expedited step in the process of judicial review. TROs are special proceedings designed to allow the court to issue immediate orders," Buckingham said.

The AG said in cases of domestic violence, TROs are granted quickly so that victims of crimes can get immediate court protection.

He said the process is quick and the opportunity for a full evidentiary hearing comes later.

Aside from Friends of Marpi, the plaintiffs are former House representative Christina Marie Sablan, Suzy Kindle, Glen Hunter, and Ruth Tighe.

The plaintiffs named as defendants the CNMI government, Coastal Resources Management, CRM director Rita Chong, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Historic Preservation Office, Office of the Governor, Capital Improvements Projects Office, CIP director Virginia Villagomez, CUC, and Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao.

Both LEAC and base rate should be treated as separate issues."

Fisher believes that the issue has been raised during the hearing and later part of the discussions and which not enough material evidence have been supported by CUC.

But after more discussions on the issue, CUC has withdrawn the motion and let the commission render the decision on base rate proposal.

Standby charge, other approvals

Besides the LEAC rate adjustment, the commission also approved the establishment of a new \$5 per kWh standby charge, a new streetlighting tariff, and a new municipal pumping rate for the CUC to generate additional revenues. It instructed CUC to meter all its water and wastewater facilities by Dec. 31, 2011 in accordance with applicable government rate tariff.

Given the CNMI's dire economy, CPUC said it is also essential that the electric division's low-income customers be sheltered for basic electric consumption and approved the establishment of a new residential lifeline customer class to which the existing monthly customer charge of \$5.06 and the existing \$0.016 per kWh usage rate for the first 500 kWh per month should apply. A new lifeline rate is expected to be presented and approved by the commission on May 2.

The commission also approved the procurement of transformers with an authorized expenditure ceiling of \$475,000 and \$1 million ceiling for computer-based preventive maintenance and budgeting program, among others.

It also suspended the December 2008 contract review protocol for establishing an annual ceiling for internally-funded capital improvement projects.

\$15 FEE**From Page 1**

mote the United States to overseas tourists, visitors coming from certain foreign countries require an Electronic System for Travel Authorization to enter a flight to the U.S. The U.S. charges is \$14.

But Inos said the CNMI is proposing \$15, to be collected by carriers when the passenger books a flight, and not at the CNMI port of entry.

"The ESTA is where the idea came from. The only question is, can we do it? I know that during the ESTA deliberation last year, we tried to be made part of that—Guam and the territories were not included so it seemed to me that if we were excluded, then we could do it and that's how the idea came about," he said.

He said he's aware of other federal statutes such as the Pacific Facility Charge and the Anti-Head Tax Act, but he said the proposed \$15 fee "will not be charged at the airport."

"It has nothing to do with airport use, so it's not passenger facility charge," he added.

As to some travel agencies' concern about additional costs to tourists, Inos said the administration does not see an additional \$15 as a deterrent to travel to the CNMI especially because it is embedded into the air fare that tourists will be paying the carriers.

Press secretary Angel Demapan and Inos said many countries and island territories charge the same type of fee, which some call departure fee. Demapan cited Palau's \$35 fee and the Philippines' departure fee.

The proposed fee is one of the major amendments to the Japan Air Service Stabilization Program law, contained in House Bill 17-179.

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) pre-filed last week the Fitial administration-sponsored bill, which also seeks to include other Asian countries in the tour agent incentive

program.

The original public law gives monetary incentives to travel agents who are able to bring in tourists from the Japanese cities of Osaka and Nagoya during so-called low peak periods.

But when a major earthquake and tsunami hit Japan on March 11, the CNMI started seeing travel cancellations from Japan. Because of this, the CNMI seeks to expand the target market, to include those from Korea and China and other Asian countries.

Japan disaster and tourism

At the same time, Inos said the CNMI has yet to receive interest from Japanese families affected by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami to relocate temporarily to the Commonwealth.

He attributes this to the Japanese people's nationalism and decision to stay with their neighbors and neighborhoods.

Nevertheless, Inos said the CNMI stands ready and willing to host Japanese families.

Inos was the first government official to offer the CNMI as a temporary home to Japanese families affected by the disasters in Japan.

Inos and Demapan, along with two officials of the Marianas Visitors Authority, went to Japan last week to attend a meeting of the Japan Marianas Tourism Club.

In the JMTC meeting, Inos said they discussed the challenges affecting CNMI tourism, and the islands' preparedness and monitoring efforts in connection with the radiation crisis in Japan.

Inos said the CNMI has pretty much seen the last of the travel cancellations resulting from the March 11 disasters, and expects tourism to slowly pick up in the coming weeks. He, however, said it may take some time to surpass the pre-March 11 arrivals.

Besides, he said, April is the start of the so-called Death Valley period when tourist arrivals are traditionally lower than the rest of the year.

The Chamber, the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 150 members, said CNMI private and business consumers already face electric utility rates higher than almost anywhere in U.S. jurisdiction.

It said Guam customers pay a per kw rate of 21 cents per hour, while CUC was proposing a cumulative rate of 36 to 40 cents for its customers.

"CUC burns a much more expensive Low Sulfur Diesel Oil (LSADO, Number 2 diesel fuel), adding costs CUC needs to recover, which coincidentally is the basis for the proposed increased rates," Brennan added.

The Chamber is also opposed to CUC's proposal to consider creating a standby service charge, to be applied to large self-generating commercial users.

"As a result of CUC's past inability to accommodate large commercial users, at considerable expense many businesses installed their own generating capacity to support CUC's power grid shortfall. At a minimum, should this proposal become a reality, those consumers should have the costs of those investments returned to them through amortization or by offsetting future utility payments," he added.

During CPUC's Friday night meeting on Capital Hill, Alepuyo said CPUC's disapproval of the proposed base rate increase does not mean that CUC cannot approach the commission again to justify a rate hike.

CPUC**From Page 1**

Effective April 16 this year, the existing \$0.28125 per kilowatt-hour rate will become \$0.34426. It was only in January that the LEAC was adjusted from the previous \$0.2446 per kilowatt-hour rate to \$0.28125 per kWh, or a 14.6 percent hike. The new LEAC rate is broken down into fuel and lube oil element, \$0.32691; volatility or allowance for uncertainty of fuel price, \$0.01635; and regulatory and technical support, \$0.00100.

CPUC ruled that in the event fuel prices go down, CUC is expected to come back to the commission for rate adjustment. CPUC chairwoman Viola Alepuyo vowed that Georgetown Consulting, CPUC's consultant, will also monitor the fuel price situation.

It was revealed that once the oil supply from Mobil Oil Guam to CUC equals or exceeds \$3.55 per gallon or equals or is below \$3.20 per gallon monthly, a new petition will be filed to adjust the LEAC in accordance with the new market condition.

CUC's monthly electric charges are composed of two rates: the base rate, which pays for the day-to-day operations, personnel, and construction of CUC, and the LEAC rate, which pays for the cost of diesel fuel oil needed to generate electricity. LEAC charges comprise 75-80 percent of total monthly bills.

Representatives of economists.com said that world oil and gasoline prices have increased 59 percent since September 2010—from \$2.13 a gallon to \$3.38 a gallon this April 2011.

Meantime, CUC said the recommended base rate increase to produce \$3.8 million in revenue, which was disapproved, is necessary to pay for increased operating costs, to fund needed repairs and mainte-

nance, and to pay for stipulated order requirements. The last time the base rate was adjusted was in 2006.

"At this time, CPUC did not approve the base rate as recommended. I understand the concerns of CUC, most especially the USDA application and the need to ensure that there is funding mechanism for that low-interest loan. I also understand the various items that have to be funded under stipulated order and the need to raise revenues. But just because the base rate today has not been approved doesn't mean CUC cannot come to the commission again to justify the base rate increase," admitted Alepuyo during the meeting Friday night, adding that CUC, when it comes back, must justify that the rate is just and reasonable.

CUC officials, along with its consultant economists.com, and Georgetown counsel Robert Torres have agreed to prepare and consult each other anew on the next base rate case expected to be presented in the commission's next assembly.

Government payable

At the start of the meeting, CUC legal counsel Deborah Fisher asked the commission to defer any decision on the electric base rate with the intention of filing more witnesses and testimonies that would back up the proposal especially on the maintenance issue. She also cited that there seems to be some confusion among parties about the issue on government payable. In a public hearing, it was disclosed that government unpaid obligation to CUC amounts to \$5.8 million which Georgetown believes could be factored in the needed revenue for CUC, if collected.

However, CUC officials disagree believing that "payable and receivable has nothing to do with

Given the CNMI's dire economy, CPUC said it is also essential that the electric division's low-income customers be sheltered for basic electric consumption and approved the establishment of a new residential lifeline customer class to which the existing monthly customer charge of \$5.06 and the existing \$0.016 per kWh usage rate for the first 500 kWh per month should apply. A new lifeline rate is expected to be presented and approved by the commission on May 2.

The commission also approved the procurement of transformers with an authorized expenditure ceiling of \$475,000 and \$1 million ceiling for computer-based preventive maintenance and budgeting program, among others.

It also suspended the December 2008 contract review protocol for establishing an annual ceiling for internally-funded capital improvement projects.

CHAMBER**From Page 1**

to any increased rates as a way to offset uncollected accounts," Chamber president Douglas Brennan told CPUC chair Viola Alepuyo on Friday.

Brennan, who is also manager at Micro Corp., also reiterated that CNMI power and water utility consumers would be "better served by the privatization of CUC."

"This should be a priority, as opposed to current short-term focus on maintaining ever increasing costs to consumers to avoid solvency concerns," he added.

Richard Pierce, Chamber's executive director, said yesterday the "fact that CPUC approved the LEAC rate increase only, when CUC asked for a base increase rate increase as well, indicates someone charged with protecting consumers and businesses believes CUC needs to do a better job in cost control, personnel decisions, administration, and management of the utility."

Brennan said any overall increased rates for businesses and residents is a further burden on all consumers, based upon "comparative rates, faulty testimony presented to CPUC by CUC's rate consultants and as Chamber's own comparative analysis of CUC's current operational practices indicate."

DEA: Most prescription drugs youths abuse are from own medicine cabinets

One of the Drug Enforcement Administration's major priorities is addressing the concerns that most of the prescription drugs that youths are abusing are actually coming from their own family's medicine cabinets, according to a DEA official.

Michael Puralewski, DEA resident in charge for Guam and the CNMI, said the priorities shift, but right now they are fo-

Govendo orders release of \$415,000 to Malite heirs

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has ordered the release of \$415,000 to the heirs of Remedio Malite.

In the order issued last week, Govendo directed the clerk of the Superior Court and the administrative services' accounting unit to make the partial distribution of funds presently held in trust for the estate of Angel Malite.

Govendo ordered the transfer of \$415,000 to the Torres Brothers law firm's client trust account for the estate of Remedio Malite.

Attorney Joaquin DLG. Torres is counsel for the heirs of Remedio Malite and heirs of Jesus Somol.

Govendo issued the release of funds after Torres; attorney Stephen J. Nutting, counsel for Angel Malite administrators; and attorney F. Matthew Smith, counsel for Angel Taman, signed stipulation for the granting of partial distribution of Angel Malite estate assets.

The parties agreed for the release of \$415,000 which is part of a land compensation settlement between the Department of Public Lands and the Angel Malite estate presently held in trust by the Superior Court.

The Superior Court has previously made partial distribution of Angel Malite Estate funds to the undisputed heirs of Angel Malite.

In each of those distributions the Superior Court reserved an equivalent share to the Somols (Juan and Leonicia Somol) pending the decision of an appeal to the CNMI Supreme Court.

That share of the Somols totals \$440,000, but \$25,000 was previously released to the attorneys for the Somols to be held in trust. Therefore, \$415,000 remains with the Superior Court.

The CNMI Supreme Court recently decided that the Somols are proper heirs to the Angel Malite estate as the *mwei-mwei* grandchildren of Remedio Malite.

With the Supreme Court ruling, the parties agreed that the Somols are entitled to the release of those funds held in trust, equivalent to the prior distributions made to the other undisputed heirs.

In a motion for release of reserved funds, attorney Torres said the Supreme Court's judgment confirmed the trial court's

cusing on the National Prescription Drug Take Back Campaign.

"That is why it is important that we work with the other law enforcement agencies—the U.S. Attorney's Office—to actually make that program successful," Puralewski told *Saipan Tribune* after a press conference on Friday about the CNMI's participation in this year's National Take Back Initiative.

Puralewski said the family and the community have to be involved in the NTBI that started last year.

He said the most concerning is the statistics that show that youths are getting these prescription drugs—unused or expired—mainly from their own medicine cabinets.

"That's why we ask that the families go through those cabi-

nets and get those drugs out and turn them in. There's gonna be no questions asked. You don't need to bring any paperwork, there's no identification required," the DEA official said.

NTBI's purpose is to provide venues for people who want to safely dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs.

NTBI will be on April 30. On Saipan, the dumping station of medicines will be at the parking lot of Horiguchi Building in Garapan from 10am to 2pm.

U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco announced the CNMI's participation in the NTBI during Friday's press conference at the U.S. Attorney's Office at Hor-

guchi Building.

Limtiaco said statistics show that everyday up to 2,500 youth with ages 12 to 17 abuse a pain reliever to get high for the very first time.

Limtiaco said 56 percent believe that prescription drugs are easier to get than illegal drugs.

She said 62 percent believe that teens get prescription drugs from their own family's medicine cabinets and they are also free.

"The easy accessibility of prescription drugs in our own homes, in our own counters, in our own cabinets, in our kitchens...these are the types of concerns that we need to bring, our public to be aware. So that we

can take some safety precautions to ensure that youths are not going to be exposed to the possibility of abusing prescription drugs," she said.

Limtiaco said they are working with local stakeholders, working with youth groups as well as *man'amkos* or elderly organization.

She said there may be bottles of expired or unused prescription drugs that the *man'amkos* would like to get rid of or disposed of, but they don't know what avenue or venue to seek to do it in a safe way.

"So we are reaching out to all of our *man'amkos*," Limtiaco added. (*Ferdie Dela Torre*)

Celebrate the Joy of Easter!

Easter Sunday April 24th

Give a live potted Easter Lilies to someone special.

Design Florist

STORE HOUR:

- Monday-Saturday 8:30am - 6:00pm
- Sunday 10:00am - 3:00pm

ORDER NOW! While Supplies Last

Cabrera Center, Beach Road, Garapan • For more information, please call 235-1414 • 234-5593 or 235-8572

Triple J Motors

Saipan's Best Comprehensive Auto Maintenance Service Just Got Better!

BUMPER-TO-BUMPER Maintenance Service

Plus, receive a FREE Exterior Car Wash & Interior Vacuum and Durafresh Dura Mist Air Freshener

Starting at \$89.95*

Castrol

*4 cylinder vehicles only. 6+ cylinder vehicles & above starting at \$99.95. Disposal fee not included and some restrictions apply. Service recommended every 6 months or 6,000 miles. Keep your brakes and engine oil clean! Offer good for a limited time only.

Customers First

TRIPLE J MOTORS PARTS & SERVICE

Located on Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
Open Mon-Fri: 7:30am to 5:30pm • Sat: 7:30am to 5:00pm
Tel: 234-7133/3051 ext 25/27 • Fax: 234-3052

Email: serviceadvisor@triplejsaipan.com
rsteelle@triplejsaipan.com

www.carssaipan.com

HARDT EYE CLINIC

Whether you have an emergency, need a comprehensive eye exam or just have a simple question, we're here to help!

235-2030

*Yes, we accept your insurance.
All major insurance plans accepted.*

ADA designs and specifications for modifications and upgrading of managaha restrooms and dressing rooms are available at Tasi Tours office.

These designs and specifications can be picked-up between 9:00am to 11:00am and between 1:00pm to 3:00pm from April 14, 2011 to April 22, 2011 only.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PROPOSAL AT 3:00 PM, FRIDAY 29, 2011.

Please see David Igitol
Tasi Tours office
Tel: 235-9373 • Fax: 234-5510

The JOETEN MOTORS SERVICE SPECIAL **BIG DEAL**

Save Big Right Now.

THE WORKS FUEL SAVER PACKAGE

- ✓ Change engine oil
- ✓ Change engine oil filter
- ✓ Adjust tire pressure
- ✓ Check and top off all fluid levels
- ✓ Add Engine Treatment
- ✓ Add Washer Solvent
- ✓ Lube Hinges
- ✓ Perform Multi-Point Inspection



STARTING AT
\$62.95
\$72.95
V8 Trks./SUV's
FROM APRIL 4 - MAY 31, 2011

Prices may vary with make, model and year. See Service Advisors for details.

GO WITH THE EXPERTS.

 **Joeten Motors**
POWERED BY YOU

SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8 AM - 6 PM
SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. 234-5562



Smart Choice

Don't let fear silence you.

SPEAK OUT.

We are here to support you.

It's time... to end sexual assault.

It's time... to get involved.

For information call the Northern Marianas
Coalition Against Domestic and
Sexual Violence at 234-3878.

For help, call the Karidat Victim Hotline at

234-5100

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

This project is supported by Grant No. 2008-SW-AX-0001 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/proposal/exhibition are those of the authors(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

OAG files 4 charges vs Labor investigator

The Office of the Attorney General has filed four charges against Labor investigator Joseph Leon Guerrero Villagomez, who was recently arrested for allegedly cultivating marijuana plants at his house in Dandan.

The OAG charged Villagomez with trafficking of a controlled substance (marijuana), possession of a controlled substance (marijuana), possession of a controlled substance ("ice"), and unlawful possession of ammunition.

Chief Prosecutor Michael Ernest stated in the charging information that on March 29, 2011 the 48-year-old Villagomez was found trafficking and in possession of marijuana.

Ernest said the defendant was also found on the same day in possession of crystal methamphetamine or "ice" and ammunition without holding a valid firearm identification card.

Last week, Villagomez pleaded not guilty of the charges. A status conference will be held on May 23, 2011

at 1:30pm.

Detectives proceeded on March 29 to the residence of Villagomez in Dandan to serve the arrest warrant for allegedly cultivating marijuana plants.

Aside from several marijuana plants seized, detectives also allegedly recovered undetermined amount of "ice" during the search in the house.

Villagomez's brother-in-law, Paul King Manglona, was also arrested in that operation for allegedly assaulting a detective. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

GSM network upgrade behind Saturday's IT&E service outage

A portion of IT&E subscribers experienced service interruption on Saturday, April 16, during a scheduled upgrade to the GSM network throughout the CNMI and Guam.

IT&E customers in Guam were unaffected by the service outage, as were IT&E's CDMA subscribers in the CNMI. The service interruption was limited to IT&E's GSM subscriber based in the CNMI.

IT&E chief operating officer Joe Camacho said that the outage was unplanned and came in conjunction with a network-wide upgrade that will enhance the communications experience for all of

IT&E's GSM customers.

"The unfortunate thing is that we were installing an upgrade to improve our GSM network service to our customers when the outage occurred. The problem was not discovered until around mid-morning and our customers were inconvenienced for a period of several hours while we resolved the problem."

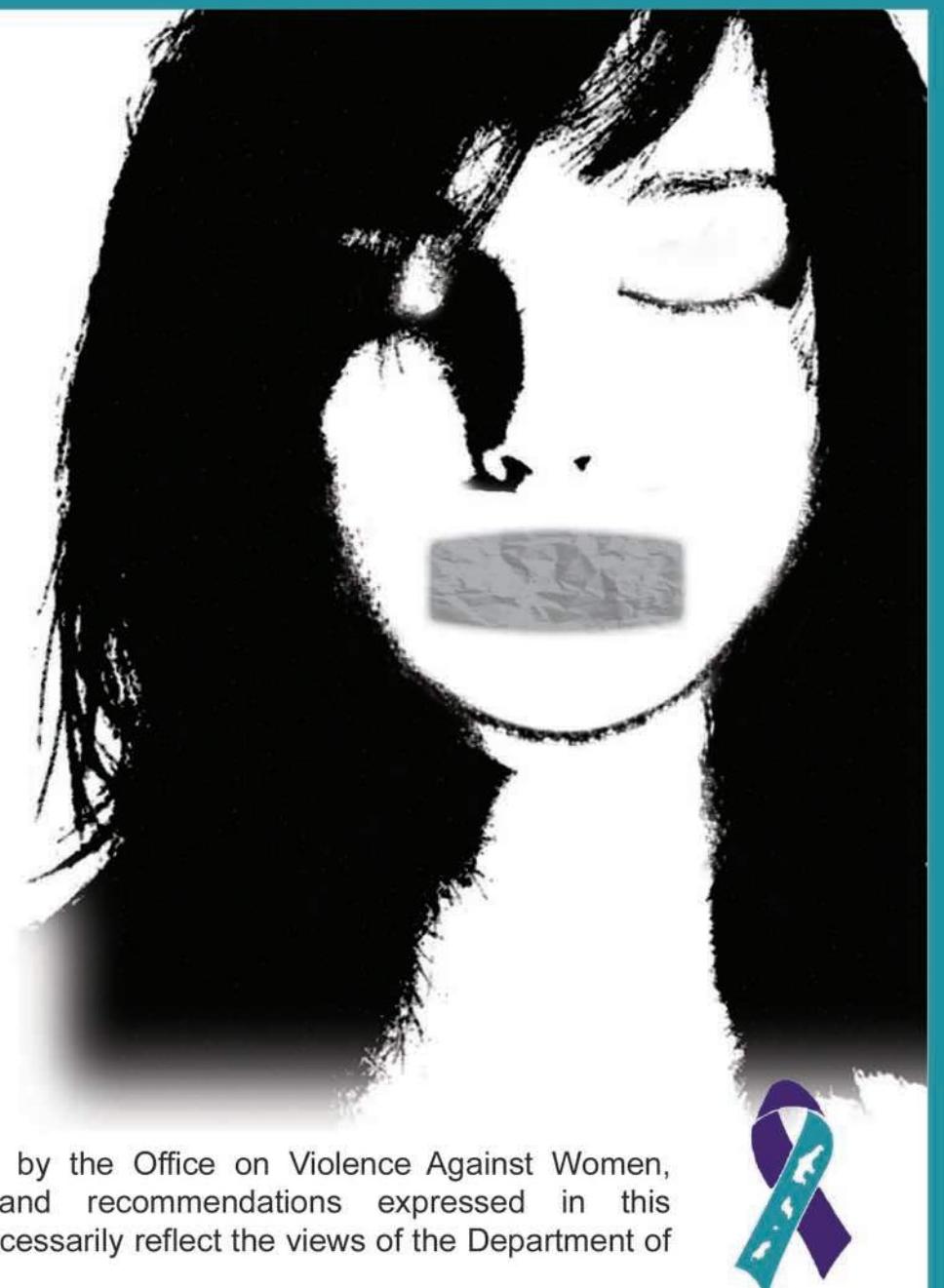
IT&E technicians worked quickly to address the situation and restored service to the affected GSM subscribers by 2pm. Camacho said that service interruptions are rare on IT&E's network and that the company remains committed to provide customers with the network

quality they've come to know and trust.

"We will continue to provide the best network possible for our valued customers. We hope that the GSM Network upgrade will prove to be a benefit to our many customers."

To compensate our valued customers for Saturday's inconvenience, IT&E will provide all GSM postpaid customers with a two-day pro-rated credit on their accounts, a two-day credit to all GSM unlimited prepaid customers, and a \$2 credit on all regular GSM prepaid customers.

For more information about IT&E's coverage and services, contact IT&E Customer Care at 682-4ITE (4483) at IT&E Customer Service on Middle Road. (*IT&E*)



Different interpretations raised on Telesource contract

Different interpretations were raised during Friday night's meeting of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission regarding the proposed change order to the existing contract of Telesource CNMI, the contractor hired by the utilities firm to build and operate the Tinian power plant.

CPUC chair Viola Alepuyo ruled that a decision should be delayed until the commission's assembly in October to give both CUC and Georgetown Consulting ample time to "reconcile" and "resolve" some issues in the proposed change order.

"I don't want to make a decision under mistaken assumption..." said Alepuyo, adding that it was very troubling for CPUC to see CUC making a petition for approval to a contract that has already been entered and without explanation why it agreed in the

joint stipulation for the denial of the recommendation.

The said change order #5 to Telesource's contract offers to modify the monthly payment structure by changing the quality management fee from \$50,000 to \$198,000 and reducing the production fee from 3 cents to

2.39 cents per kWh. The term of the agreement is also proposed to be extended by 15 years and there's a provision that CUC could reduce to five years if CUC establishes that fossil fuel generation is no longer needed.

But based on Georgetown's analysis, if approved to 15 years,

the change order will cost CUC customers approximately \$33 million over the 15-year term. If approved, Georgetown also said that the Tinian plant will be the least loaded power plant, but will be the most expensive to operate on a day-to-day basis. The cost in the first year will re-

sult in customers being required to pay \$1.5 million.

But for Alepuyo, she sees the change order proposal as an opportunity for CUC to wean its dependence on fossil fuel for Tinian facilities.

"I don't see this as a 15-year contract but I see this as shortening the time that CUC is in business relationship with Telesource. NMI needs to go away from de-

pendency in fossil fuel whatever form that maybe," she said.

Alepuyo said that the \$33 million "impact" analyzed by Georgetown is based on calculation of 15 years if approved. However, she pointed out that there is a proposed provision in the recommended change order that CUC can also reduce the years of the contract. (*Moneth G. Deposa*)

Torres says OPA need not send staff to Rota, Tinian for financial statement filing

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) said it would be a "waste of time and money" for the Office of the Public Auditor to send its staffers to Rota and Tinian next week to notarize and accept last-minute filings of statement of financial interest for 2010.

Torres, a notary public from 1974 to 2008, said OPA could coordinate with the mayors offices on Rota and Tinian to provide the notary services instead and to require officials to

send their financial statements through the mail to save travel costs for OPA.

"Government officials have the responsibility to file their statements. They have to work on it; they can find a notary public and the forms are easy to understand and self-explanatory.

If they really can't understand, then they could ask somebody or call OPA. OPA is only wasting money and time going to Rota and Tinian," Torres said.

The veteran lawmaker said

he will bring this matter up to the full House during their next session.

OPA said on Thursday it will be sending representatives to Tinian on April 27 and to Rota on April 29 to receive last-minute filings and provide free notary services as well.

It also said that filers on Tinian may visit the Tinian Casino Gaming Commission conference room on April 27 from 9am to 4:30pm, while filers from Rota may visit the Rota

Mayor's Office on April 29 from 12:30pm to 4:30pm.

As of Monday last week,

OPA or the Department of Finance has yet to receive from 24 government entities an updated listing of their organizations to determine the number of elected and appointed officials who are required to file their statement of financial interest for calendar year 2010, barely two weeks before the initial May 1 deadline for filing such documents with OPA.

OPA expects to see a surge in filings close to the May 1 deadline.

Under 1 CMC §8511 of the Government Ethics Code Act, all elected and appointed Commonwealth officials, judicial officers, and executive department heads or directors are required to file a Statement of Financial Interest.

The statement of financial interest includes government officials' income, and financial interests in real estate, among other things. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)

JOINT NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9 (WTR-5)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

On Application for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit to Discharge Pollutants to Waters of the United States

Public Notice #: CNMI-11-W-01
Public Notice Date: April 18, 2011
Comment Period Closes: May 18, 2011

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are jointly issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended, the implementing regulations, and the CNMI Water Quality Standards, as amended. EPA is issuing a notice of proposed action to issue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit MP0020397 to the following discharger subject to certain effluent limitations and other conditions:

Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc., Saipan Terminal
P.O. Box 500367
Saipan, MP 96950

The applicant operates a petroleum bulk storage terminal located at the Saipan Seaport. Industrial stormwater and wastewater will be discharged from the facility to the Seaport's storm sewer system, which in turn discharges to Tanapag Harbor at N 15 degrees 13'35", E 145 degrees 44'12". The facility is located at Petroleum Lane, Puerto Rico Village, MP, 96950.

CNMI DEQ is considering a request to certify the discharges described above, pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA. The certification will set forth any limitations and monitoring requirements necessary to ensure compliance with water quality standards under Section 303, area-wide waste treatment management plans under Section 208(e), effluent limitations under Sections 301 and 302, standards of performance under Section 306, prohibitions, effluent standards or pretreatment standards under Section 307 of the CWA, and any other appropriate requirement of CNMI law.

CNMI DEQ may certify conditions that are more stringent than those in the draft permit under its CWA Section 401 authority. For each more stringent condition, CNMI DEQ shall cite the CWA or CNMI law references upon which the condition is based. Review of appeals of limitations and conditions attributable to CNMI EPA certification shall be made through the applicable CNMI procedures.

EPA is soliciting comments on the proposed permit. EPA will consider all comments received during comment period before taking final action. To submit comments, or to obtain additional information including the proposed permit and administrative record, please contact:

Amelia Whitson, 415-972-3216, Whitson.Amelia@epa.gov
EPA Region 9 (WTR-5)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Website: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/npdes/pubnotices.html>

You're On Your Own!

ARE YOU CERT READY?

How quickly do you expect emergency first responders to reach you, loved ones or neighbors just after a typhoon, earthquake, tsunami, fire or terrorist attack?

Maybe, not soon enough.

BE PREPARED! GET TRAINED!

For your family. For your community. For CNMI!



**CERT TEAM
APPLY TODAY
TRAINING!**

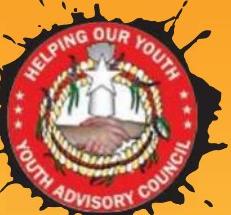


*For more information or how to become part of the CERT program, contact:
CNMI Citizen Corps Program
CNMI Office of Homeland Security
Joey C. Dela Cruz, Citizen Corps Program Manager
Tel: (670) 664-2216 • Fax: (670) 664-2218 • Email: jdelacruz.ohs@gmail.com*



Citizen Corps

 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
CNMI Youth Advisory Council
CNMI Juvenile Justice Task Force



APRIL 2011

ENFORCING UNDERAGE DRINKING LAWS (EUDL) AWARENESS MONTH

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

- **MARCH 25, 2011 EUDL PROCLAMATION SIGNING, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**
- **APRIL 6, 2011 EUDL TOWNHALL MEETING, AQUA RESORT CLUB, 5:00PM - 7:00PM**
- **APRIL 13, 2011 EUDL TOWNHALL MEETING, PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB, 5:00PM - 7:00PM**
- **APRIL 16 - 17, 2011 EUDL YOUTH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT, CAPITOL HILL SOFTBALL FIELD**
- **APRIL 29, 2011, EUDL YOUTH CONFERENCE, SAIPAN WORLD RESORT, 8:00AM - 4:00PM**

The CNMI EUDL Enforcement Task Force will also be conducting Compliance Check Operations throughout the month of April.

THESE ARE ALCOHOL FREE EVENTS. NO ALCOHOL IS TO BE CONSUMED OR SERVED AT ANY OF THESE EVENTS. ANY VIOLATORS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

For more information regarding the EUDL Youth Softball Tournament, please contact Mr. Isidoru Camacho at 670-285-0206 for any inquiries if you are interested in participating.

For more information about the EUDL Youth Conference and other activities in April, please contact the Criminal Justice Planning Agency at 670-664-4550.

 **THE CNMI JUVENILE JUSTICE TASK FORCE REMINDS EVERYONE TO PLEASE ENFORCE UNDERAGE DRINKING LAWS.**
HELP KEEP OUR YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SAFE! DO NOT PROVIDE ALCOHOL TO MINORS UNDER THE AGE OF 21.

21! IT'S THE LAW!

A message from the CNMI Youth Advisory Council and the Juvenile Justice Task Force.
 Made possible by a grant from the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs,
 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 18, 2000

CNMI gets help in campaign against the Big C

A representative of the American Cancer Society in Hawaii and Pacific is helping the CNMI come up with programs that will promote early detection and prevention of the highly dreaded disease. Eleanor Waterhouse, vice president of unit services and fund raising of the organization's Hawaii Pacific Division, said raising awareness on cancer is the best way to prevent spread of the disease. Cancer, which a few years ago had lower statistics, has become a leading cause of death among the indigenous population—a fact blamed by public health officials on westernized lifestyle adopted by islanders over the years.

Mayor: Rota trade trip promising

"We made significant progress to bring business to Rota," said Rota Mayor Benjamin T. Manglona. Mr. Manglona just completed a one-week trade and investment trip to Japan along with Rota Senators Edward U. Maratita and Ricardo S. Atalig, Municipal Council Chair Abraham M. Ogo, and former Council Vice Chair Steve K. Mesngon. "We signed an MOU with the Unkai Company where the beverage company committed to construct a Shochu plant in Rota within one to two years," said the mayor. "Unkai's president, vice president and other resource personnel from the company will be in Rota in May or June to advance plans and firm up specific steps."

April 18, 2001

Customs wiser after Nevada conference

The Division of Customs came out from a week-long seminar on organized crime held in Las Vegas, Nevada with a better perspective on the activities of nefarious groups around the world. Among the topics discussed during the assembly, which might prove applicable and pertinent to the CNMI, were a global update on Asian gangs and organized crime, narcotics smuggling, alien smuggling, gaming fraud investigations and arson and explosive investigations. The Northern Marianas being a virtual melting pot of Asian nationalities could be a potential hotbed of Asian gang activity. Although, it has yet to rear its ugly head in the Commonwealth, the conference showed how serious the problem is in places like the US.

NMC eyes deal with California University

Reporter Accessibility to higher education for local students is getting closer and closer to home. Besides the Northern Marianas College's forthcoming plan to offer a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education degree this Fall, it is also embarking on collaborative efforts with the San Diego State University on various bachelors and masters degree programs. The articulation agreement between the two institutions is eyed as a golden opportunity for locally-based working students to further their education in several fields of discipline.

April 18, 2002

Speaker bats for tourism plan funding

With a price tag of \$2.25 million, the CNMI Tourism Strategy Plan could end up as one of the more expensive promotional campaign of the Commonwealth, but House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider appealed to lawmakers yesterday to support the plan as a means to achieve the goal of bringing in 100,000 more Japanese tourists in 2002. "The Governor has already submitted the plans that the Strategic Tourism Planning Committee came up with. I would like to ask for your support for this plan, particularly since time is of the essence. This plan has to be implemented this year so your immediate action is needed to put this plan into motion," said Hofschneider. When Rep. Oscar M. Babauta raised the question of to where the money for the plan is going to be sourced, Hofschneider said the funding would be incorporated in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget submission.

WASC notes MHS improvements

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges has advised the Marianas High School leadership to prioritize three areas outlined in its action plans in pursuit of sustaining the public school's ongoing improvement. The visiting team, which conducted an onsite evaluation of the public high school last April 10 to 12, recommended that MHS continue to work on increasing its student learning and achievement; aligning a written curriculum that meets students' needs; and focusing on collaborative ways to assess the achievement of the Expected School-wide Learning Result.



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950



**NOTICE OF CLOSURE
LABOR CASES AND APPEALS**

Monday, April 11, 2011 first notice

Monday, April 18, 2011, second notice

The cases brought by or for the aliens listed below that were recorded for any purpose as pending in the Labor Department or in the Commonwealth courts at the time that umbrella permits were issued have been finally concluded, including all appeals, or submitted by the Department for dismissal by the court. If more than one case was pending with respect to an alien listed below, all cases have been finally concluded. All aliens who declared pending cases were issued umbrella permits regardless of whether they were in status or out of status at the time.

The umbrella permit of each alien listed below has been reclassified by the Labor Department as of the date of the first notice from "case pending" to "240K, work authorized" and continues in force through November 27, 2011. No action is needed by the complainant or petitioner; this is done automatically on the Department's records.

This determination as to formerly pending cases has been made from the Labor Department's records. A person affected by this determination has fifteen (15) days from the date of second notice in which to present, in writing, to the Administrative Hearing Office, any information relevant to a case that is asserted to remain pending at the Department or in the Commonwealth courts. This publication does not affect any prior order served personally or by mail on any person. This determination does not affect in any way any cause of action brought by a plaintiff or petitioner in the Commonwealth courts until a court order is issued. This publication does not affect any petition for review or appeal with respect to labor bond claims currently pending in the Superior Court or any other court.

Name	LIDS Number	Case Number	Name	LIDS Number	Case Number	Name	LIDS Number	Case Number	Name	LIDS Number	Case Number
Abat, Flora A.	286546	CV 10-0029	Dahil, Michael D.	130305	Denial case	Labrador, Sesinando M.	111962	Denial case	Papua, Marivic R.	172937	
Abaygar, Ronald N.	294939	Denial case	Dantes, Danilo C.	130641	Denial case	Lacandazo, Nestor C.	121051	Denial case	Parayaan, Fe Manalo	124578	Denial case
Abugan, Antonio G.	126983	Denial case	Daquiwag, Marissa E.	119777	Denial case	Lai, Meilian	173132	Denial case	Pardales, Marcel P.	291240	Denial case
Acuna, Nicolas	128216		Daquiwag, Ricardo P.	127183		Laitan, Benito	122118	SA 2009-163	Patanao, Maria Vina E.	189106	SA 2009-135
Acuvera, Benito D.	102443	PAT/NOB 08-284	David, Fernando M.	115315	CV 07-0496	Lansangan, Genero V.	139572	CV 09-0427	Perez, Apolos R.	122092	CV 09-0355
Advincula, Hilda B.	103826	CV 09-0484	David, Nerissa G.	106703	Denial case	Lansangan, Salip Maerilyn M.	173837	Denial case	Perez, Daisy B.	313733	
Agbanlog, Jenie M.	132878	Denial case	David, Raffy S.	202685	Denial case	Lapuz, Virginia L.	149150	CAC 08-136-04	Perez, Mary Joy P.	288946	Denial case
Aguelo, Rowena T.	191014	Denial case	De Leon, Eugene G.	108829		Lazaro, Grace F.	205549	Denial case	Perinpathas, Kanthiah	172230	Denial case
Ai, Fang Lin	293222	LC 09-123	De Ocampo, Lalaine S.	189969	Denial case	Lazaro, Leandro O.	118630	Denial case	Pingol, Godofredo L.	102805	Denial case
Al Amin, MD Mir	131014	CV 08-0335	Del Rosario, Maria E.	123305	CV 09-0355	Lazatin, Anita B.	106653	LC 09-05-T	Pradip, Kumar	132972	CV 08-0263
Alcantara, Ronaldo M.	151346	Denial case	Del Rosario, Romualdo C.	108743	Denial case	Leal, Brigida B.	133967	CV 05-0358	Qi, Shui Hua	143113	CAC 08-167-09
Aleta, Esther R.	205034		Dela Cruz, Arceli R.	294631		Lebris, Emilio A.	136302	LC 09-1004	Quader, Abdul	136439	CV 09-0435
Alava, Amelia	170696	CV 09-0180	Dela Cruz, Rodolfo DLV.	100229	Denial case	Li, Bo Fei	148824	2005 case	Quiot, Richi B.	312078	Denial case
Ali, Basir	136396	Denial case	Dela Paz, Serafin B.	124239	Denial case	Li, Chang Gui	154765		Radoc, Teodora D.	127215	Denial case
Ali, Idrish	100872	LC 04-913	Delos Santos, Domingo A.	127673	Denial case	Li, Dan	188867	CV 09-0330	Rahman, Mazber	111833	CV 09-0326
Ali, MD Ayub	135704	CV 09-0434	Denning, Angelie G.	127469	Denial case	Li, De Fu	106024	LC 09-1009	Rahman, Muksedur	131482	
Alibio, Evelyn O.	125209	Transfer request	Din, Maung San	158765	Denial case	Li, Fu Shun	124143	Denial case	Ramirez, Deolito B.	111704	
Aluag, Yolanda L.	149152	Denial case	Dino, Rolan Legaspi	298445	Denial case	Li, Ling	199731	CAC 08-043-02	Ramos, Paulina	130522	09-0176
Alvarado, Rafael N.	154519	CAC 08-136-04	Diocion, Teotimo A.	104742	Denial case	Li, Mei Ling	136301	Denial case	Refugio, Norberto C.	500156	Denial case
Alvarado, Rafael N.	154519	CAC 08-136-04	Dizon, Letitia R.	162262		Li, Pei Li	181820		Relano, Antonio S.	196627	Denial case
Am, Shun Hoe	188189	Denial case	Dizon, Wilfredo L.	121578		Li, Rong Hua	286128	CAC 09-234-07	Relatos, Sonia O.	108900	Denial case
Amboni, Melecio Q.	293563	Denial case	Doca, Rito B.	152532	Denial case	Li, Xiang	148849	Denial case	Reyes, Dominador D.	153325	SA 2009-164
Amog, Jenney M.	294888	Denial case	Donaire, Lolito	193845	CV 09-0371	Li, Xin	199425	Denial case	Reyes, Guillermo E.	136295	Denial case
Andogage, Lenard	104926	CV 08-0335	Dutta, Sougata	312339	LC 09-122-T	Liang, Jie	285093		Ritual, Janetie M.	134420	Denial case
Anenias, Glenda B.	291741	CV 08-0217	Ebarle, Elbert J.	312076	Denial case	Liao, Zhi	285955	Denial case	Rivera, Ponciano G.	126778	Denial case
Angeles, Benjamin C.	192847	Denial case	Ebilane, Rosalina	106715	NOB 1645	Lim, Michael F.	161408		Rizo, Amador R.	122075	Denial case
Angeles, Nathaniel A.	188172	Denial case	Emble, Manuel E. Jr.	199064	Denial case	Lin, Meidan	138317	CV 09-0442	Rodriguez, Nora V.	163768	Denial case
Apostol, Wilson J.	181478		Ermita, Oca E.	174431	LC 09-1001	Lin, Shao Rong	172939	CAC 08-168-07	Rokibul, MD	131021	CV 08-0192
Aruldass, Arockiaswamy	185237	Denial case	Eerno, Nimpah	150909	SA 2009-173	Linatoc, Ruelito L.	313225	Denial case	Romolor, Manolo P.	135898	Denial case
Atencio, Ramon V.	186842	CV 09-0342	Escalada, Sol G.	122335		Lindo, Donald Lat	187082	Denial case	Rosario, Ma. Visitacion A.	112177	Denial case
Atienza, Rolando A.	105256	Denial case	Esco, Lydia T.	116891	CV 09-0461	Liu, Dongfan	CV 09-0480		Royo, Eugenio R.	104168	LC 09-1008
Awa-Aw, Javin B.	302753	LC 09-131	Esquerda, Antonio D.	139640	CAC 08-132-04	Liu, Jin Chai	173683		Rufila, Aldrich S.	187180	
Ayuste, Martin G.	111441	Denial case	Esma, Nida L.	144581		Lontoc, Estrella A.	145109	CV 05-0358	Rufo, Angelo A.	297792	Denial case
Bailey, David A.	162612	CV 08-0247	Espanillo, Susan V.	147567	Denial case	Lopez, Idita M.	125897	Denial case	Sadian, Fremy M.	194768	Denial case
Balasoto, Melquiades	116664	CV 08-0263	Estanislao, Maria Isabel D.	127497	Denial case	Lorenzo, Renante B.	191073	Denial case	Salatan, Teddy V.	103272	Denial case
Balbuena, Helen E.	116019		Estrada, Bebily P.	148406	Denial case	Lozada, Bernardino S.	312196	Denial case	Salborio, Janet R.	299790	Denial case
Balingit, Amor S.	124130	CV 10-0028	Eusebio, Annabelle C.	310794	Denial case	Lu, Wen Wen	199238		Salvador, Reynaldo L.	108316	CAC 08-132-04
Ballesteros, Susan T.	122803	Denial case	Exconde, Rodelyn M.	291739	CV 08-0217	Lu, Xuan Bo	119283	LC 09-1000	San Gabriel, Gener R.	144373	Denial case
Balurau, Hector	500107	Denial case	Fan, Xuebing	311315	Denial case	Lucas, Julie C.	192890	Denial case	San Pablo, Esterlita C.	117211	Denial case
Bandiola, Rogelio G.	158017	Denial case	Faura, Normita E.	124074	CV 09-0103	Lucero, Loila F.	284256	Denial case	Santia, Gertrudes Filipina C.	156403	
Banez, Emma L.	116698	CV 09-0329	Feng, Quanmin	159979	CV 09-0473	Lumabi, Pio DLC.	123462	Denial case	Santin, Armando A.	282256	LC 09-126
Barbo, Gerry P.	190601	Denial case	Fernandez, Domingo R.	107431	Denial case	Lumbad, Norbert M.	115284	Denial case	Saturno, Ronald Santa Cruz	118721	Denial case
Barriga, Efren E.	139740		Fernandez, Elsa D.	201659	Denial case	Ma, Hui	139996	CAC 08-166-07	Sayson, Benida J.	157651	CV 09-0342
Bartolome, Romeo M.	123163	Denial case	Fernando, Luzviminda B.	150268	SA 2009-019	Ma, Zhi Yong	205266	CV 09-0121	Serrano, Reynaldo A.	163163	CV 09-0419
Batu, Norma C.	124245	Denial case	Figuroa, Nimpha A.	297811		Macahito, Garry R.	204731	Denial case	Sexton, Rogelio O.	116621	CV 09-0367
Bautista, Rexelito V.	176438		Francisco, Barbara S.	163603	Denial case	Macarilao, Maria C.	195720	Denial case	Shen, Fenhuai	191386	CV 09-0390
Bermiso, Rolly G.	312079	Denial case	Francisco, Romeo L.	127833	SA 2009-009	Macarilao, Enida T.	123344	LC 09-110	Shi, Lan Xiang	197738	CV 08-0410
Bermudez, Perlita L.	146217	Transfer request	Gaboya, Merlinda	125095	CV 09-0336	Macaso, Romeo A.	152937		Shin, Yang Kyu	313440	
Bernardo, Romeo L.	121050	Denial case	Gao, Chun Mei	311627	LC 09-125	Magalong, Renato S.	145244	Denial case	Sikder, Milon	136572	Denial case
Bernido, Belinda S.	140525	Denial case	Gao, Jingqi	148317	Denial case	Malaca, Norida G.	149149		Siriban, Juanita P.	100116	Denial case
Besitulo, Alinee C.	295018	CV 08									

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

CNN'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 91

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Drug deal gone bad

The Obama administration has apparently allowed one of the biggest alleged drug kingpins in Latin America, if not the world, to slip through its fingers instead of being extradited to the United States to face a pending federal indictment in New York.

To make matters worse, this particular druglord claims to have information that would expose the complicity of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez's government in drug trafficking.

Charges that Mr. Chavez's cronies assist drug traffickers have been around for years. "It is public knowledge that Venezuela has become an increasingly important country in the operations of narcotics cartels and from it drugs are flowing in worrisome amounts through Central America to Mexico and the U.S. and via West Africa to Europe," Sen. Richard Lugar, the ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said recently.

But no one has been able to name names and offer precise bribery figures—until Walid Makled came along and began singing. Last August, acting on a warrant out of New York, Makled was arrested on the Colombian-Venezuelan border by Colombian officials acting on a U.S. warrant.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration accuses him of shipping up to 10 tons of cocaine a month from Venezuela to the United States. In subsequent jailhouse interviews with Univision, Makled claims he couldn't have done it without government help.

He boasted of having more than 40 Venezuelan generals on his payroll. Makled, a Venezuelan national, says he handed out \$5.5 million in one year to the current Venezuelan navy commander to use a warehouse concession in Puerto Cabello to stash his illicit goods. And, he insisted, he was willing to repeat his charges to U.S. prosecutors, and that he has videotapes and other documentary evidence.

The Venezuelan government denies all this, calling it a smear campaign. In any case, much of what Makled says about Venezuelan involvement might not be admissible in a U.S. court. But it now appears unlikely that he will ever face justice in the United States because Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos has decided to extradite Makled to Venezuela instead of the United States.

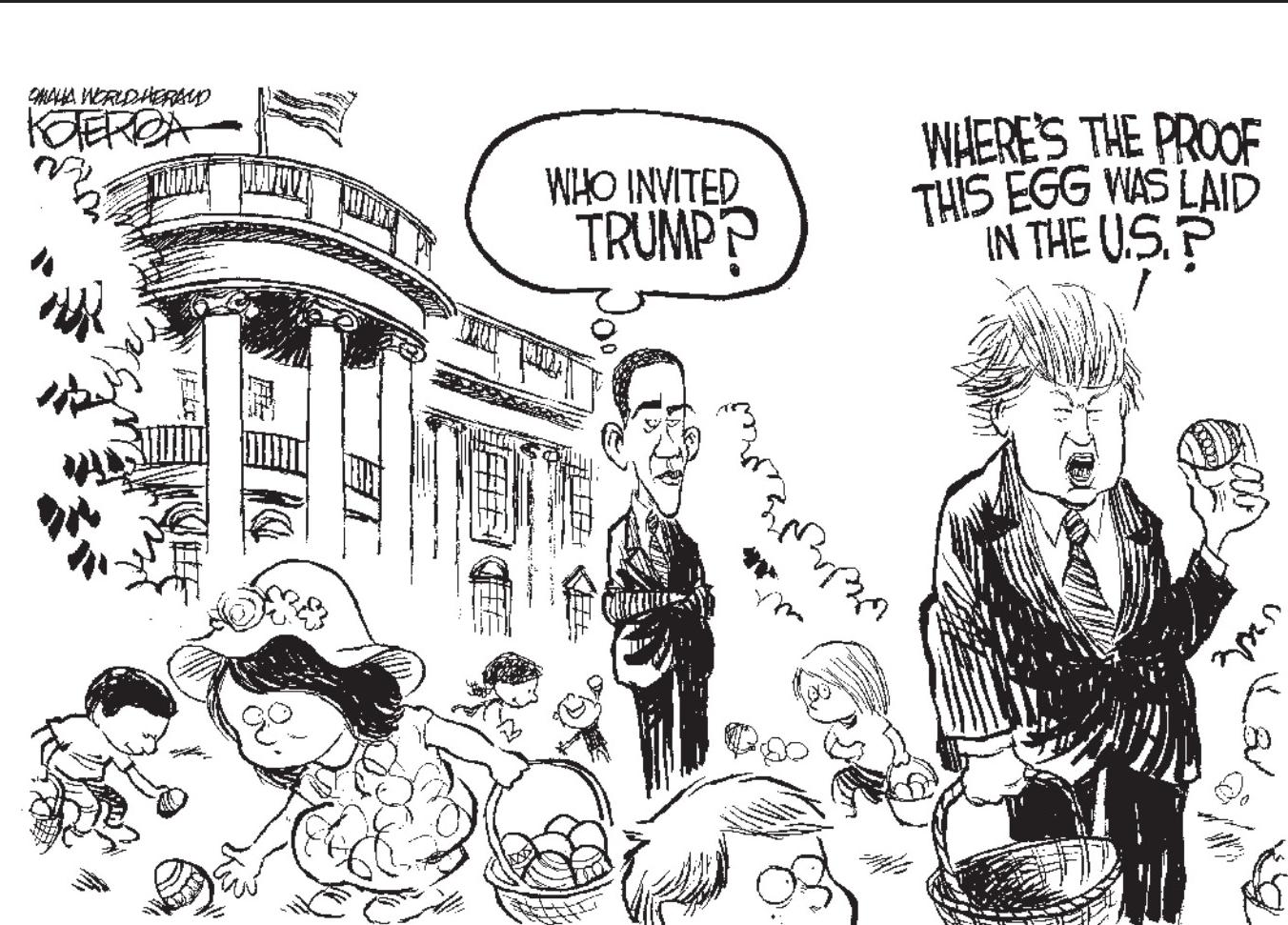
Mr. Santos says he has no choice under the law because Venezuela filed its extradition request earlier. Leaving aside the issue of how this could have happened, it overlooks the fact that he was arrested on a U.S. warrant, and there are indications Venezuela acted only upon learning that Makled was willing to cooperate with U.S. authorities.

It is more than a little disappointing that President Santos reached this decision. Sen. Lugar calls it "a reversal of years of cooperation." Clearly, President Santos wants to end the long-standing feud between Venezuela and Colombia. Turning over Makled and thus ensuring that he will never testify in the United States will likely make Mr. Chavez grateful.

But it does not suit the ends of justice. "Should he be extradited to Venezuela, the Department of Justice and the DEA would be unable to use the information he has already provided to them to legally dismantle some of the most important drug networks in the world today," said Sen. Lugar.

President Santos should reconsider his decision, or at least provide U.S. drug agents and Justice Department officials full and unfettered access to Makled in Colombia. It would probably be the last time U.S. officials would have a chance to talk to Makled and learn more about the information he possesses tying Hugo Chavez's government to drug trafficking.

(c) 2011, The Miami Herald



It's not about 'me' but about 'us!'

This morning I am finding it difficult to discuss positive things in our CNMI. My mind is jammed with negative ideas and misgivings coupled with horrible thoughts of more of the same to come. And I keep asking myself: Does it have to be so? What if we were to start thinking about "us" and less about "me?"

Let's dwell on one current issue that is being thrown time and again in our faces. We are blared at daily with the message that casinos are the salvation to all the economic illnesses in our community. The message is that casinos will solve all the problems we have.

Look what will happen when casinos begin operating! Cheaper electricity bills, 24-hour island-wide potable water, scholarship money for all students, better roads, more cushy government jobs at full 80 hours, the Retirement Fund replenished, etc., etc. Wow! What are we waiting for? But let's calm down a bit and look at reality.

Tinian has had a first class casino called the Tinian Dynasty now for over 10 years. What are your answers to these questions?

Are the people in Tinian prospering because of it?

Have many more Japanese and Korean tourists are flocking to us because of that first class casino?

In fact has it affected our tourist market at all?

How many LOCAL people are employed in the Tinian Dynasty?

Has the Tinian Airport been improved allowing direct flights?

How much casino tax money is going into our general fund?

How successful is the casino in Rota?

How many LOCAL people are employed in that casino?

We could go on and on debating this matter about the benefits of casino gambling until we are blue in the face. In my humble opinion, we are heading into another deep problem by demanding that we become a casino-land economy. We are only deepening the malaise we are in. Since the early 1980's we have forgotten how to work. We have turned our backs on the power to prosperity.

We have opted to become like beggars preferring to let outsiders build our houses, build our roads, and run our businesses. We prefer to line up for food stamps. We prefer pleading to the U.S. government to grant us more and more money. We prefer begging for government jobs and than kiss someone's a... to keep them. We have become like docile sheep waiting for the next slaughter. We keep voting for politicians who keep promising us more cotton candy, sweet to the taste but with no nourishment.

What has happened to our pride? When are we going to wake up to the fact that it's not about "me" but about "us"? Weekly I sit and ponder how to convince us that we must change our thinking if the economic climate here is to change. But week after week I am becoming little by little whittled down to wanting to throw in the towel and let happen what will happen. I keep asking myself: Why should I care?

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



Some members of the Legislature are suggesting fast and easy solutions to our problems. Yes, let's legalize marijuana and build casinos. Let's increase poker machines and create more opportunities for gambling. Let's sell our daughters—anything to make money! If we keep looking we will find more ways to sell our souls and country.

But, damn it, we are not going to work using our hands and heads! We will continue to sponge off the money given to us and the labor of others. BUT WE WILL NOT WORK!

After attending several seminars which discussed economic recovery ideas, after discussing many more ideas for restoring our economy with many individuals, NOT ONE idea strongly suggests that we learn how to become entrepreneurs. NOT ONE idea strongly suggests that we become skilled workers and become the builders of our island. All the ideas proposed keep suggesting that we look for investors and seek ideas for making quick money. Somehow the thought of us going to work ourselves has become foreign to us. WORK seems to have become an obscene four-letter word.

I have written about this before but it is the only truth I know. I recall living in Japan from 1958 to 1974 and witnessed that nation struggle to regain its economic strength which had been devastated from World War II. We will see that great nation revive itself again after recently suffering a horrible and crushing earthquake followed by one of the world's worst tsunami.

During that same period I watched Korea also rebuild its mighty economic machine after having it destroyed from World War II. In both countries I met many people and watched their endeavors to create a self-sufficient economy powered with their own hands. They had few investors. They had no food stamp programs. No hand-outs! But they had mighty leaders who prodded their people to greatness.

Let me keep reminding us about Singapore who has risen from poverty from 1959 to become the fourth largest and strongest economy in the world. Yet, it is only a small island with only 225 square miles. How did it do this? Read the biography of Lee Kuan Yee, the former prime minister of Singapore, and see for ourselves.

Prime Minister Yee stated his philosophy in the following See IT'S NOT on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Nuklear Marpi

We use the Indo-Malay spelling of ‘nuclear’ intentionally (remember Amerika!), and the lower case in our title, to indicate that we are flying under the radar in this reflection.

Allusion to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear crisis is not accidental either. We admire the Zen calmness that Japan’s population is exhibiting in the aftermath of the earthquake-tsunami devastation, and the ongoing radiation crisis, but we are dismayed by the revelation that Japan might have played sleigh-of-hands with radioactive material.

Power monopoly TEPCO’s report that reactors 4, 5, and 6 were off, with 4 shut down for maintenance during the tremors, does not account for the presence of weapons-grade plutonium in the plant’s effluent. With erratic North Korea rattling its missile sabers, anti-nuke Japan might have been induced to strengthen its nuclear arsenal. What did we know since GE is a daiichi player in matters nuclear?

Japan PM Kan asked his defense agency to immediately assist the Fukushima plant after the quake but the NDF was rebuked by TEPCO’s CEOs, who would have performed seppuku by now given the extent of damage and suffering occasioned by its plant, but they might have a trump card up their chest since though apologetic, they are avoiding accountability and bewailing the demand that the company compensate the population surrounding the beleaguered plant.

With 150,000 tons of radioactive waste around the world awaiting disposal (24,000-year radioactive life), and even with the Japan disaster, the Philippines is reviving its Bataan plant (yup, built on an earthquake fault), and because “we already invested considerable money in it,” we could not very well stop the growth of nuclear power especially with the peaking of fossil fuel resource like oil, around the world. China has 24 reactors in its plans, though to its credit, it manufactures solar panels and maglev wind turbines. There

are 104 reactors in the U.S., the demand for more plants heating up in Obama’s watch, and France is unapologetic over its 50 plants on the ground, vowing to build some more; Russia and Iran cooperate on the sly, as India, Indonesia, and countries in Africa and South America plan for theirs.

Japan’s vaunted high safety standard technology built on the cheap with an eye more on the balance sheet’s bottom line than human welfare. The 1960 Chile quake recorded 9.5 on the Richter yet Japan in the Ring of Fire built to withstand only a 9.0 without factoring a devastating tsunami! Add tinkering with the spent fuel for weapons-grade production, and there lies the formula for disaster.

Which brings us to nuklear Marpi. We went “nuclear” when we first saw the “ordnance clearing” activities that was obviously a new housing development. The addiction to economic growth—increase in financial assets, i.e., monetary market value—with carbon-emitting fossil fuel and the instruments of mass destruction) that characterizes economic civilization is best sustained with the swift conversion of real estate into residential units whose value appreciates substantially. This is true in all the construction projects around the world, economic bubble burst notwithstanding. Add to that the derivative value that the phantom wealth creating system of stock markets have included in their financial ledgers, and housing is no longer built to meet a shelter need, but to fuel financial speculation.

As innocuous as lighting up a veterans cemetery, we see encroaching unsightly power poles into a pristine area best left preserved for its natural capital, and not far behind are bulldozers to clear space for unsustainably archaic ranch dwellings with garages built for two cars, space for a family with 2.5 children, and a cat!

We need light for the next 100 years at a veteran’s cemetery where alternative power had not survived vandals, goes the line. We expect this reasoning from political hacks used to issuing stale PR releases, but Angel Demapan is to young to rot with the lot. The

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune’s Opinion Section.



same prehistoric herd he serves harps without end the entry of casinos, notwithstanding Saipan Cassie’s “No,” loud and frequent, to the effort.

In the ’60s Civil Rights/Vietnam War era, we put body and sanity on the line. I was going to ask a dear colleague if I could wheel her and her oxygen bottle to the Marpi sight and obstruct the way of the vehicles installing the poles. Or, cuff ourselves to the cemetery gate and ask active colleagues to orchestrate a massive presence to do and media air the same, hoping that an awakened Saipan might realize that nothing but laying one’s life on the line will stop the dinosaurs off their tracks.

Saner legal acumen prevailed and we thank those who went to Judge Govendo’s sala; now a stay in the completion of the two remaining poles is in place, which might earn SSHS time to look into the medium range maglev wind turbines (1000x more efficient than the current windmills) that China is now producing, and with abundant winds on island, begin using the gadgets (along with Tina Sablan’s solar panels). Might even look into neodymium used for making the magnets that is widely distributed on the earth’s crust, and turn a commercial venture while we are at it.

Perhaps, it is time to convene the parliament of the street, too. Just a thought. What do I know; am only an aging school teacher!

Respondot Na Patgon

Mamos i mas patgon na cheluhu mamagof yangin hu imbeste i defunta nanan mame. Buente pot guiyia mas patgon ya sessu inatleg ni amku na mafattu minagofña yangin hu oppe i amku’. Lau guahu ha’ lokue’ i amku’ ha sede. Todu u fanekun ‘sino pañgpañg i koreas gi tatalo’ niha.

Era un’ taloane matto i amku gi gima’ yan un’ kanastran nobenan difirientes mañantos. Ha pega gi lamasa ya ilegña, “Tutuhon manayut”. Hu atan i kantidan leblon nobena ya chaka chaleghu. Hu faien i amku haye gi halom i mañantos Yuus. Ha oppeyu, “Ni unu”. Hu faien talu manu mas probechosu para guahu, tinayuyot para si Yuus ‘sino mañantos? Ha oppeyu na si Yuus dispues ‘nai mañantos.

Hu labla tatte na mahafotyu apmam antes de bai’na fonhayon todou nobenan mañantos. Hu appunta giya guuya na unu ha’ patronhu ya nahoñgyu’ as St. Jude. Baihu attende i pumalu lau mofona siempre i patron familiaghу. Hu lie’ milagrosu na benefisiu gineng i patronhu guihue na ora ‘nai sumen poble siñenteghu sa’ malañgo i lahihu.

Lau mauleg intensioña i amku gi adelanton espirituat para i famaguonña siha. Hu sen agradez toodus finanagueña guine na patte. Lau ti pumara lokue hana’ hassuyu ni respondothu.

■ ■ ■

Gi un’ tiempo gefsaga linala’ña yan familiaña. Mauleg offisiun i asaguña yan suficiente sueldoña i prohimu. Fitme yan bonitu gima’ niha gi fina’ hogsu yan dos na karetan familia.

Un’ dia ha chule i familia bakasion niha ya man-hanau para un’

lugat giya America yan Canada. Aksidente i prohimu seriosu na esta pininu’ mediu gi tatautauña.

Biradan niha esta ti siña machochu i kilisyau para apas obligacion familia. Adumididi sige maliñgu guinahañ niha. Mattu i bañku ya ha chule’ i gima kontodu karea.

Mampos matulaika linala’ este na familia na esta na’tañges ‘an ta konsidera diariu hinanau niha pagu piot i humidde na nanan guma.

Lau hombre ni este na chinatsaga ti nina’ seha i prohima gi inaligau para una funhayan edukasioña sa’ komprende kabales na ayu ha’ solu na chalan ‘nai siña ha prebeniye kabales i famaguñoña.

Humanau ‘an ogaan para i eskuela maudai gi bus. Kase enna i oran ‘las ochu ‘nai ha bibirague’ tatte giya siha. Man-adíñganiyon famaguñoña ya man-ayudante gi todou kinalamten chechu guma. Esta tutu lagohu sa’ tuñgu na sumen makat pinadesisiaña. Lau finoña i prohima, dipotsihe guaha haane yan pueñe diariu, “Gaigeyu pagu gi hemhom hu nanañga na umanana si Yuus”. Bien felis!

■ ■ ■

I man-amku’ ti sen megai biradan niha pot para un’ mana tuñgu amanu sagamu ‘sino rayamu. Un’ ratutu ha’ madispacha hau guine na patte.

Pot ihemplu ‘nai sige un’ chalegu siko smu. Ilegña i amku, “Adahé pachotmu”. Lau gigon un’ huñgog “adahe siko smu”, tulus hau ya un’ suhaye ‘sino mana’ kalaska magahet siko smu.

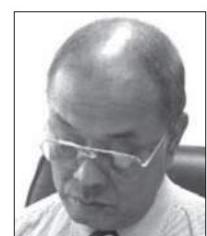
■ ■ ■

‘Nai man-famaguon hit, sessu ta hatsa fina’ palasyu gineng i inai gi

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune’s Opinion Section.



kanton tasi. Ta atan i boniton palasyu ya sige hit pagu man-konbetsasian. Bira birada, poduñg ‘sino basnag ennau na palasyu sa’ añañl dispues i inai ni tana’ fotgon pot para u sustene i enteru buttu. Hafa hu keke sañgan?

Debi todou kinalamtenta tana’ guaha planu pot siakassu na lache i koku. Este na chochu i para tana’ guaha planu listu gi todou ora debi de kulan obligasionta. Ni unu gi entre hita sumupone na siempre ayu na palasyun unai u basnag. Guaha fina’ planu para ‘an basnag ayu na buttu?

Mas este na planu obligau piot ‘nai un’ fafana’ i lina’la’ publiku. Debi un’ gai planu hafa para un’ chogue ‘nai, pot ihemplu, poduñg ya sumen buhu i rinikohen kontribusion tax ‘sino i ekonomia. Guaha planuta pot este? Kau propio i para umasotta este na asuntun linahyan gi kaprichoña? Mauleg na asuntu para oran kafe ‘an ogaan. Si Yuus Maase’!

Letters to the Editor

Our people deserves to be heard

Just recently, the Fitial administration sponsored an Economic Restoration Summit. One of the things discussed at the summit was the need to develop eco-tourism. Shortly after it concluded, the same administration that wanted our community to sit down and work on ways to boost our tourism market began to plant huge power poles in Marpi. No public hearings. No discussions. No input from the community. And their reason? “So we can have power at the cemetery. You know, to run the sprinklers and to

have lights at night.” Wink, wink.

Even the Marianas Visitors Authority was opposed to the power poles. They advised against it in a letter that was dated back in December. Who knows better about tourism than the folks who deal with tourists on a daily basis? But of course, even MVA was ignored.

While underground power was suggested, we were told that it would cost about \$2 million and that it was too costly. Of course, there are millions and millions of dollars of unspent ARRA funding, so technically, we could have had underground power if this administration chose to do so. Solar and wind panels were another viable option, but this administration eliminated that option because they believed there was a possibility of theft and vandalism. Apparently

this administration does not understand that you could have solar panels and wind turbines secured via remote cameras, a few trained guard dogs, and a security guard. That would be cheaper than running power poles all the way in to Marpi to run sprinklers and some lights. By the way, it is a bit absurd that CUC complains that they cannot afford fuel without raising our rates, but yet somehow, they will have enough money to run power at the cemetery along with all those lights attached to the power poles. Are we going to raise the rates once again to provide power in Marpi? Shouldn’t this administration be concentrating on alternative or renewable energy that can reduce the government’s power consumption, especially with the cost of oil once again skyrocketing???

See OUR PEOPLE on Page 13

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the morning, then isolated showers in the afternoon. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Palau	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Yap	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 82 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 76
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 56
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 71 ▼ 4
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 69
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 47
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 69 ▼ 55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 70 ▼ 50
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 72
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60 ▼ 49
Osaka	Showers	▲ 66 ▼ 51
Paris	Sunny	▲ 70 ▼ 47
Pusan	Windy	▲ 60 ▼ 46
Rome	Sunny	▲ 69 ▼ 49
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 36
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 55
Seoul	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 40
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 62 ▼ 53
Washington, DC	Windy	▲ 66 ▼ 52

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:29 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.6 Feet
7:05 AM	Today	High Tide: 2.1 Feet
1:57 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.3 Feet
8:27 PM	Today	High Tide: 2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:01 AM	6:32 PM	Today	6:42 PM	5:39 AM
Tuesday	6:01 AM	6:32 PM	Tuesday	7:47 PM	6:31 AM
Wednesday	6:00 AM	6:32 PM	Wednesday	8:51 PM	7:26 AM
Thursday	6:00 AM	6:32 PM	Thursday	9:52 PM	8:24 AM
Friday	5:59 AM	6:33 PM	Friday	10:49 PM	9:23 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHTOS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010			
DEPARTURES		ARRIVALS	
SAIPAN-GUAM		GUAM-SAIPAN	
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)		NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN	
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily
SAIPAN-OSSAKA (KIX)		OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN	
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)		BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN	
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)		SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN	
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)		SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN	
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)		BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN	
CA988	3:15am	6:55am	1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)		MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN	
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ716/603	12:30am	2:20pm	4, 6 via ICN
DL172/286	8:05am	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM</td

OPINION

OUR PEOPLE

From Page 11

The Attorney General's Office of course runs to the aid of this administration after a TRO filed last Friday temporarily suspends work on the power poles in Marpi. And what are one of the reported arguments made by the AG's Office to dismiss the TRO? "Come on Judge, we already had a public hearing." Yeah right. Back in 2004. These attorneys understand the concept of statute of limitations within the law but completely ignore any statute that deals with good governance and common sense. How pathetic. This is just one more reason why we need an elected Attorney General. These days, it seems AG really stands for "Attorney of the Governor." The AG's Office is nothing more than an extension of this administration. They seem to uphold the laws according to this administration instead of upholding the laws of the land.

Let's not kid ourselves. The power poles are being put up for something more than just running a sprinkler and some lights. Is it so we can put up homesteads next to Suicide Cliff? NOBODY is opposed to homesteads. But many of us are opposed to WHERE you put those homesteads. There is still a lot of public land to be used for homesteads. Why put our people all the way out in Marpi? Do we really want development in sacred Marpi and everything that comes with it? Poker parlors, pawn shops, Laundromats, tire shops, and everything else associated with development? If the overwhelming majority of

our people want this for Marpi, then we need to support the will of the people. But to force the development of Marpi down all of our throats without so much as a discussion is more than disgusting and insulting—it just plain wrong.

Could the power poles really be intended for a huge resort/future casino in Marpi? It wouldn't surprise any of us. But of course we would only find out by reading or watching the news or by word of mouth, as this administration is allergic to public hearings and public input.

If there is anything this administration is truly good at, it is at distorting the truth and creating smoke and mirrors. There are some people who will turn this into a RACIAL issue instead of what it really is—an ENVIRONMENTAL issue. These narrow-minded individuals rant and rave at anyone opposed to development in Marpi, claiming they are "Amerikanon po'as" or traitors or just plain "stupid haoles," ignoring the fact that many opposed to the development in Marpi are in fact Chamorros and Carolinians. My wife is opposed to it, as well as many of my Chamorro and Carolinian friends, so this obviously has nothing to do with race.

The bottom line is, EVERYONE deserves to be heard at a public hearing for all monumental decisions affecting our islands, most especially one that allows the development of Marpi. EVERYONE. Regardless of race, gender, wealth, age, or political status or preference. Even crooks and rabid racist thugs deserve to be heard at public hearings. Governor Fitial, Marpi

does not belong to you, and it certainly does not belong to me. It belongs to our people. Let our people have a voice and the power to decide on its fate.

A friend of mine asked me, "Why do you care so much about power poles in Marpi?" I explained to him that it is not just about power poles. It is about future development that is guaranteed to follow. And the argument this administration uses, that these poles are "temporary" is about as ludicrous as proclaiming that casinos in Saipan are our only economic salvation.

Brothers and sisters, Marpi is more than a tourist attraction. It is a place where we can admire and enjoy the peace and tranquility that nature has to offer, and at night, gaze upon the billions of stars up in the sky, without light pollution that we get at our villages from houses, hotels, and streetlights. Let us never forget that Marpi has historical and cultural significance, and we must do everything we can to protect it.

Our people deserve better representation and they certainly deserve to have a voice. If we had an open, honest, and transparent government, public hearings would have been held before any poles went up, and a TRO would have been averted. But in an oppressive government that is used to backdoor wheeling and dealing and sole sourcing out its contracts, a TRO was the only practical option. Come on governor. As a wise woman once said, "It is never too late to do the right thing." Hold a public hearing. Our people deserve to be heard.

Ed Propst
Dandan

erating mismanagement, no effective change will occur. We must stop asking the federal and local government for freebee handouts. We must stand up and scream: "BASTA! ENOUGH! LET'S CORRECT OURSELVES!"

It is extremely gratifying to see that a group of truly concerned and courageous citizens have done just that the other day. The government in another of its more stupid moments of arrogance insists that power poles are the only way to bring power to a region that is considered one of our most beautiful and scenic. This brave group led one or two fearless leaders appealed to the court and got a temporary restraining order on the project. Bravo to them! See! It can be done! Our greatest asset is us—the people.

But for too long we have neglected ourselves and instead relied on foreign workers to do our work. As a result we have been dulled to believe that the only labor is to work in a government job. As a result we burn out our lives toiling in an environment of distasteful work until we become zombies waiting

for retirement. Thus our lives are wasted. We become like a candle that burns hidden in a closet where no one sees or benefits from the light.

Stop whining that we have no money. Stop whining that we have no resources. Stop whining that we have no leaders. There are acres of diamonds under our feet. Let's pick them up and start polishing them. We have the leaders amongst us who can lead us. We need a will to listen and to work with them.

A nation of educated and motivated people can never go wrong. As surely as the sun rises so will prosperity rise of determined people. I send a plea to those of you that aspire to be leaders—come forth and lead! We need you now!

"THERE IS NO LAW IN NATURE WHICH PROVIDES THAT LIFE WILL GET BETTER NEXT YEAR. WE HAVE TO WORK HARD TO MAKE IT BETTER."

Our leaders and we—the people—must work hard to educate ourselves to become industrious. This is our country. Let's get off our butts (excuses) and do it!

IT'S NOT

From Page 10

paragraph:

"SINGAPORE'S SUCCESS WAS DUE TO THE ABILITY AND INDUSTRY OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE, WILLING AND EAGER TO LEARN, PREPARED TO WORK HARD AND PAY THEIR WAY IN THE WORLD, FINDING PRIDE AND PLEASURE IN CONSTRUCTIVE ENDEAVOR.... THERE IS NO LAW IN NATURE WHICH PROVIDES THAT LIFE WILL GET BETTER NEXT YEAR. WE HAVE TO WORK HARD TO MAKE IT BETTER."

We are no longer a cute little Pacific island as has been so often mirrored in the movies. Today we are a part of the world of nations and must take our rightful place among them. With modern technology the world is constantly in our living room as we are in theirs. Life has changed drastically, and we must change with it.

Until we stand up and take responsibility for our past and present actions, do away with our complacency and stop tol-

LOCAL

'Ice' trafficking case against masseuse dismissed

The Superior Court has granted the Office of the Attorney General's motion to dismiss with prejudice the case of a masseuse accused of selling methamphetamine or "ice."

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted on Thursday OAG's motion to dismiss the case that charged Yue Xin Tang with illegal possession of a controlled substance and trafficking of a controlled substance.

Dismissed with prejudice means that the case cannot be re-opened.

The OAG moved to dismiss as it believed that there is no sufficient evidence to convict Tang.

Tang and a co-masseuse Li Ping Zhou were arrested in September 2010 for allegedly engaging in selling "ice."

A detective stated in his report that he and members of the Drug Enforcement Task Force confronted Zhou, who was standing outside the door of her room in As Lito and was about to enter it.

Tang was seen inside the room massaging a Chinese man on the bed.

The detective said he instructed everybody to exit the room and asked Zhou if she has "ice" inside her room.

The detective said Zhou showed her wallet, which contained "ice" in a ziplock bag placed in two rolled up tissues.

Zhou allegedly confessed she took the "ice" from Tang.

Detectives allegedly recovered more "ice" during the search of Tang's house.

Attorney Robert H. Myers Jr. counsel for Xin, recently filed a motion to suppress statements and evidence.

Myers said Tang consented to a search of her own place only because the police told her that they would, without probable cause, take both of them to the police station.

Myers said after seizing alleged contraband in her place, they arrested her, at which point she made further statements.

"Because all of the contraband was found as a result of the original wrongful assertion of authority, this court should suppress all of it," Myers said.

The OAG did not respond to Myers' motion, then moved to dismiss the case against Xin. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Thai community celebrates Songkran

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Wild Bill's Bar & Grill was transformed into a wet, wild, and white venue Friday night as the Thai community on island celebrated their New Year called Songkran.

Water guns, bottles, and basins came in handy as Thai nationals and other revelers completed Songkran festivities with the splashing of water to drench all guests, which symbolizes cleansing and refreshment of the spirit and all good things associated with life.

Aside from being soaking

wet, guests were also covered with baby powder, which is one of the rituals during Songkran celebration. The white powder is a sign of protection and wards off evil.

Derived from a Sanskrit word that means "move" or "change place," Songkran is celebrated for three days from April 13 to 15 every year on the Gregorian calendar.

The three-day celebration actually begins on April 12, which is called On Wan Sungkharn Lohng. On this day, people thoroughly clean their house, burn rubbish, and do general preparations for a fresh start of the year.

Wan Payawan, which is celebrated on April 14, is when Buddha statues are washed with scented water and people visit monasteries and shrines to give their offerings.

April 15 is known as Wan Parg-bpee, when ancestors and elders are honored by having younger members of the family pour scented water onto the palm of an elder to wash away bad deeds. This very ritual became the basis of the modern-day water festival tradition.

The date of Songkran, set according to astrological calculations, falls on the hottest time of the year in Thailand.



Ningning Li, Tomoko Shimizu, and Kyoung Park join the revelry during the Songkran celebrations at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill Friday night.



Members of the Thai community on Saipan are wet and white as they celebrated Songkran or Thai New Year last April 15 at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill in Garapan.

Business

Clinton pledges US-Korea trade pact this year

SEOUL (AP)—Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Sunday the Obama administration is determined to pass a free trade pact with South Korea this year and complete the largest such agreement for the United States since her husband was president.

Clinton told American and Korean business leaders that the U.S. and its close ally already have one of the strongest trading relationships in the world, with nearly \$88 billion in two-way commerce last year. The \$38.8 billion in U.S. exports supported some 230,000 American jobs, she said.

"But the truth is, we know we can do more if we can lower the barriers to trade between our countries," Clinton said, claiming that tariff cuts in the agreement would lead to \$11 billion in increased sales of American goods and a sharp jump in Korean economic growth.

On a brief stopover in South



South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, right, talks with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton during their meeting at presidential house in Seoul, South Korea, Sunday, April 17, 2011. AP

Korea to discuss trade and how to get North Korea back to nuclear disarmament talks, Clinton also met Foreign Minister

Kim Sung-hwan on Saturday evening and then Lee Myung-bak early Sunday. Clinton and Lee began by speaking about

NATO's commitments in Afghanistan and Libya, and reporters were ushered out of the room before any mention of

North Korea.

Earlier, Kim said Clinton's visit would provide a fresh impetus for the trade agreement's ratification. The pact, which slashes tariffs and removes other barriers to commerce, requires approval by Congress and South Korea's National Assembly before it can take effect. It is the biggest deal of its kind for Washington since the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico in 1994, when Bill Clinton was president.

"We see our economic relationships with South Korea and other partners across Asia as vital to America's economic renewal," the secretary of state said Sunday, explaining that Asian nations now make up four of the top 10 U.S. trading partners.

She said the U.S.-Korea treaty would protect labor and environment standards, and patents and copyrights to ensure a level playing field. And beyond the economic bottom line, she said it would cement the two nations' long-term partnership.

The two countries worked out a hard-fought compromise in early December altering the original deal, signed in June 2007, because of U.S. complaints that it did not secure enough access for American automakers.

Moves for ratification had

also stalled amid changes in government in both countries and the global financial crisis.

"We will be consulting and making the case together to our respective legislatures and I'm very confident that there will be a positive outcome that will benefit both of our countries," Clinton said.

Clinton did not mention North Korea in public remarks before holding talks with Kim or at the business event she attended afterward. But the South Korean foreign minister thanked her for U.S. support in dealing with the North and said he looked forward to "working closely with you in resolving the North Korean nuclear issues."

International efforts to achieve North Korea's de-nuclearization have stalled and tensions between the two Koreas have spiked, especially since the sinking in March last year of a South Korean warship that killed 46 sailors and a deadly North Korean attack on a front-line South Korean island in November.

South Korea and the U.S. have blamed North Korea for the ship sinking, although the North has denied involvement.

Clinton is to travel to Tokyo later Sunday to show U.S. support for Japan as it recovers from a major earthquake and tsunami as well as the world's worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl a quarter century ago.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Gas at \$4 in nation's capital, 5 states; NY next

NEW YORK (AP)—Drivers in Washington, D.C., on Saturday joined motorists in five states who are paying more than \$4 per gallon for gasoline. The average price for gas in New York could top \$4 by early next week. Hawaii, Alaska, California, Illinois and Connecticut already have pump prices above that mark, according to AAA's Daily Fuel Gauge. Hawaii has the highest price in the U.S. at \$4.47 per gallon. The national average for gas has increased for 25 straight days, and is now \$3.82 per gallon. Retail surveys suggest motorists are reacting to higher prices now by buying less fuel. Still, the government expects pump prices to keep climbing this summer as vacationers take to the highways.

2 protesters arrested at IMF/World Bank event

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two protesters have been arrested during weekend demonstrations of the spring meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. Jeffrey Light, a lawyer for the activists, says one demonstrator was arrested for alleged destruction of property and the other for disorderly conduct. He says both have been released. The demonstrators marched around downtown Washington on Saturday afternoon and then attended a concert at night. An additional march was planned for downtown late Saturday into early Sunday morning.

UAE raises questions about BlackBerry curbs

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The United Arab Emirates' telecommunications agency said Saturday that BlackBerry smartphone services would remain available in the country, suggesting it may roll back on plans to limit a high-security option. A statement by the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority said "all BlackBerry services" would continue for companies and individual subscribers, but did not specify whether it included a system that allows data to be shipped via servers abroad. Earlier, the agency said that only qualifying companies with 20 or more BlackBerry users would have access to the BlackBerry Enterprise Server, which is used by many international companies and business executives.

Euro bailouts in focus in Finland's election

HELSINKI (AP)—A nationalist party that rejects bailouts for Portugal and other debt-ridden eurozone members is expected to make strong gains in Finland's election Sunday but remains unlikely to join the next government, according to a series of recent polls.

The opposition True Finns party, which opposes immigration and rescue funds for what it calls Europe's "squanderers," has quadrupled its support since the last election and is poised to finish among the top four.

The True Finns' rise has led to worries in eurozone economies over whether they can count on Finland's support for bailout funds, which must be unanimously approved by the 17 countries using the euro.

However, recent surveys show the nationalists are not likely to get enough support to break up the current pro-bailout government—a four-party coalition led by Prime Minister Mari Kiviniemi's Center Party and the conservative National Coalition Party.

"The bigger parties have no reason to invite the True Finns into any coalition if they can make up the numbers without them," said Olavi Borg, professor emeritus in political sciences.

True Finns leader Timo Soini believes his party is now big enough to deserve seats in the next government, though he realizes that his stance on European rescue funds is problematic for other parties.

"But everything is possible.

If we could agree on a program, then who knows?" Soini said Friday.

A poll presented Thursday by public broadcaster YLE showed the National Coalition winning the election with 21.2 percent support ahead of the Center Party with 18.6 percent. Together with their two smaller coalition partners they would have a combined 53 percent, enough to keep their majority in Parliament.

The main opposition Social Democrats—who like the True Finns are skeptical about eurozone bailouts—got 18 percent support in the poll while the True Finns scored 15.4 percent. That's lower than in previous polls but a sharp increase from the 4 percent they won in the last election in 2007.

Keeping all options open, Kivniemi, the prime minister, didn't rule out coalition talks with any of the other leaders.

"I can work with all the parties, and all the leaders of the other parties," she said, signing autographs and speaking to voters in Helsinki on Saturday. "But we must first wait for the results of the elections, so then we are ready to start negotiating the next government's program."

Finland has pledged some euro8 billion (\$11.5 billion) in guarantees of a total euro440 billion (\$634 billion) in the eurozone's main bailout fund. But those likely will increase significantly as the currency union completes a promised boost of the fund's lending capacity.

IMF pledges new efforts against economic threats

WASHINGTON (AP)—Soaring oil prices that threaten to worsen unemployment and poverty added a sense of urgency to talks Saturday among global financial leaders.

They wrapped up three days of talks with pledges of closer cooperation and better surveillance of the global economy. However, it was uncertain just how far countries would be willing to go in reforming their domestic policies in response to international pressures.

The United States, which is facing plenty of criticism for its soaring federal budget deficits, campaigned to get the International Monetary Fund more

heavily involved in monitoring currency rates.

The U.S. goal: bringing more pressure on China to move more quickly to allow its currency to rise in value against the dollar, a development that has helped to push the U.S. trade deficit with China up to record levels.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner argued in his speech to the IMF's policy-setting panel on Saturday that the 187-nation lending agency should exercise the powers it already has to prod nations such as China to move more quickly to adopt flexible exchange rates.

He said the failure of a major country such as China to reform

its currency system is putting undue strains on other emerging nations that have adopted flexible currency systems.

"The IMF has the capacity and the responsibility to play a critical role in solving this problem and should do so by significantly strengthening its surveillance," Geithner said.

The IMF did not address Geithner's appeal directly in its concluding statement Saturday. China has strongly resisted previous U.S. efforts to increase the IMF's role in advising countries on currency policies. U.S. critics contend that China is manipulating its currency to keep it as much

as 40 percent undervalued against the dollar to gain significant price advantages for its products.

Singapore Finance Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam, head of the IMF steering panel, said at a concluding news conference that all countries realized the importance of policy reform and better coordination as the global economy recovers from the worst economic downturn since World War II.

"Although we are in a better position than a year ago, there are significant vulnerabilities," he told reporters. "We are still in a fragile situation. We have to be extremely watchful."

Nation

Moms killing kids not nearly as rare as we think

NEW YORK (AP)—“How could she?”

It’s the headline du jour whenever a horrific case emerges of a mother killing her kids, as Lashanda Armstrong did when she piled her children into her minivan and drove straight into the frigid Hudson River.

Our shock at such stories is, of course, understandable: They seem to go against everything we intuitively feel about the mother-child bond.

But mothers kill their children in this country much more often than most people would realize by simply reading the headlines; by conservative estimates it happens every few days, at least 100 times a year. Experts say more mothers than fathers kill their children under 5 years of age. And some say our reluctance as a society to believe mothers would be capable of killing their offspring is hindering our ability to recognize warning signs, intervene and prevent more tragedies.

And so the problem remains. “We’ve learned how to reduce auto fatalities among kids, through seatbelt use. We’ve learned how to stop kids from strangling on the strings of their hoodies. But with this phenomenon, we struggle,” says Jill Kortbin, an anthropologist at Case Western Reserve University who has studied mothers who kill children. “The solution is

not so readily apparent.”

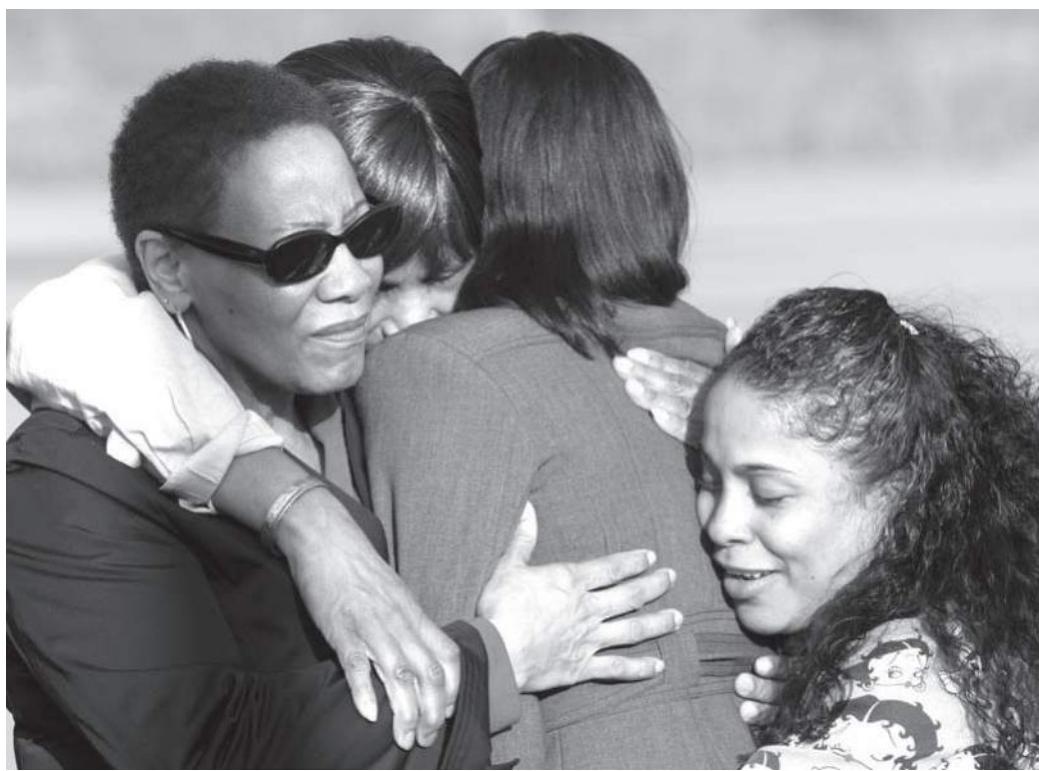
How common is filicide, or killing one’s child, among mothers? Finding accurate records is nearly impossible, experts say. One problem is classification: The legal disposition of these cases varies enormously. Also, many cases doubtless go unreported or undetected, such as very young mothers who kill their newborns by smothering them or drowning them in a toilet after hiding the entire pregnancy.

“I’d say a mother kills a child in this country once every three days, and that’s a low estimate,” says Cheryl Meyer, co-author of “Mothers Who Kill Their Children.”

Several databases track such killings but do not separate mothers from fathers or stepfathers. At the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System reported an estimated 1,740 child fatalities—meaning when a child dies from an injury caused by abuse or neglect—in 2008.

And according to numbers compiled from 16 states by the National Violent Death Reporting System at the CDC Injury Center, 130 children were killed in those states by a parent in 2008, the last year for which numbers were available.

“The horrific stories make the headlines, so we believe it hardly ever happens,” says



From left, Hetty Minatee, Hattie Beamon, Desiree Watson and Areli Ortiz embrace during a vigil at the boat ramp where Lashanda Armstrong drove her minivan into the Hudson River on Tuesday night killing herself and three of her children, in Newburgh, N.Y., Thursday, April 14, 2011. AP

Meyer, a professor of psychology at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. “But it’s not a rare thing.”

Meyer and co-author Michelle Oberman interviewed women at the Ohio Reformatory for

Women. They found that of 1,800 women at the prison, 80 were there for killing their children.

It’s also a phenomenon that defies neat patterns: It cuts across boundaries of class, race and socio-economic status.

Oberman and Meyer came up with five categories: filicide related to an ignored pregnancy; abuse-related; neglect-related; assisted or coerced filicide (such as when a partner forces the killing); and purposeful filicide

At least 4 killed in NC storms; death toll at 21

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—A brutal spring storm raged across North Carolina on Saturday, flattening businesses, flipping cars and destroying homes, leaving at least four dead from a system already blamed for killing 17 people in four states.

The death toll was likely to rise. North Carolina Gov. Beverly Perdue said there were fatalities in four counties but would not confirm an exact number, saying officials wanted to wait until Sunday morning.

Earlier, officials in Raleigh said more than one person died in the capital city in Wake County, one of the counties Perdue mentioned. Urban

search and rescue teams were also looking for residents who might be trapped in damaged buildings.

Perdue said the 62 tornadoes were the most since March 1984, when a storm system spawned 22 twisters in the Carolinas, killing 57 people—42 in North Carolina—and injuring hundreds.

This year’s spring storm was easily the deadliest of the season, but there were stories of survival, too.

In South Carolina, a church with six people inside collapsed after it was hit by a tornado, but somehow no one was injured. And in Sanford, N.C., the manager of a Lowe’s hardware store was credited with saving more than 100 workers and employees by ushering them to the back of the store, which acted as a makeshift shelter as the weather rolled in.

The storms began in Oklahoma on Thursday, then roared through Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia.

Seven people each were killed in Arkansas and Alabama, which was hit a day earlier. A father, his son and his daughter were killed near Montgomery; a mother and her two teenage sons died in a mobile home in the southwest part of the state, and the storm claimed the life of an elderly man whose trailer was tossed

nearly a quarter of a mile across a state highway.

Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley visited some of the devastated areas and declared the entire state a disaster.

Things looked similar in North Carolina. Roofs were ripped off stores, trees were plucked out of the ground and “scores” of homes were damaged, emergency management director Doug Hoell said.

Police in Raleigh evacuated residents at a mobile park, and emergency crews went door-to-door looking for people injured or trapped by the storm that flipped mobile homes from one side of the street to the other.

Another air controller naps; new schedules coming

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Aviation Administration changed air traffic control work schedules Saturday, acknowledging it has a widespread problem with fatigue after another controller fell asleep on duty—this time in Miami.

“We are taking important steps today that will make a real difference in fighting air traffic controller fatigue. But we know we will need to do more. This is just the beginning,” FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt said in a statement.

On Monday, Babbitt and Paul Rinaldi, president of the Nation-

al Air Traffic Controllers Association, will begin visiting air traffic control facilities to hear what controllers have to say and to remind them that sleeping on the job won’t be tolerated. Their first stop is Atlanta, home of the world’s busiest airport.

The latest sleeping incident—the fifth to be disclosed by FAA since late March—occurred just before 5 a.m. Saturday morning at a busy regional radar facility that handles high altitude air traffic for much of Florida, portions of the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

According to a preliminary review of air traffic tapes, the controller did not miss any calls from aircraft and there was no impact on flight operations, the FAA said. The controller, who was working an overnight shift, has been suspended.

Prior to the start of the shift, all controllers were given a briefing on professionalism and the importance of reporting to work fit for duty, FAA said. The incident was reported to a manager by another controller, the agency said. There were 12 controllers on duty and two managers, it said.

Rinaldi said the Miami incident was particularly disturbing because there was ample staff on duty at the time.

“It is never acceptable when we don’t provide the level of service expected and required of us on every shift,” he said. “We take our responsibilities very seriously and believe fatigue is a significant factor in these instances.”

Regional radar centers are usually large rooms, but each controller has a cubicle. Because of the layout, a controller can accidentally doze off without being noticed.

Health officials stymied in porn investigation

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Health officials say porn producers are dodging questions and slowing down an investigation into a case of HIV that shuttered production at several companies last year. The Los Angeles Times reports that health officials are struggling to make headway on a probe, a process that is usually much more efficient when there is a disease outbreak. In a report obtained by the newspaper, Dr. Francisco Meza says adult film companies refuse to cooperate with the investigation, and stage names for performers make it difficult to track down partners.

Asia

Japan's TEPCO plans timeline to end nuclear crisis

TOKYO (AP)—The operator of the radiation-leaking plant embroiled in Japan's worst-ever nuclear power disaster said Sunday that it had drawn up a timeline for resolving the crisis more than a month after it began.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said its chairman, Tsunehisa Katsumata, would hold a news conference Sunday afternoon to explain the plan to bring an end to the crisis at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, which was damaged by a catastrophic earthquake and tsunami on March 11.

Details of the plan were not immediately available.

In a show of support for a staunch American ally, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton expressed admiration and sympathy for the Japanese as she visited Tokyo on Sunday. She was due to meet with senior Japanese officials, including the prime minister, emperor and empress.

Clinton said she was visiting "to demonstrate our very strong bonds of friendship that go very deep into the hearts of our people."

Prime Minister Naoto Kan, fighting criticism over his administration's handling of the disaster, has called resolving the nuclear crisis his "top priority."

"I take very seriously, and deeply regret, the nuclear accidents we have had at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant. Bringing the situation under control at the earliest possible date is my top priority," Kan said in a commentary in the weekend edition of the International Herald Tribune.

As Japan has begun planning for reconstruction and mulling how to pay for it, Kan's political opponents have resumed calls for his resignation after refraining from criticism in the immediate aftermath of the disaster.

Thanking the international community for its support, Kan vowed to rebuild a country "highly resistant to national disasters."

"I pledge that the Japanese government will promptly and thoroughly verify the cause of this incident, as well as share information and the lessons learned with the rest of the



A protester beats a drum in front of a showroom of Tokyo Electric Power Co., (TEPCO) during an anti-nuclear plant demonstration in Tokyo, Saturday, April 16, 2011. AP

world to help prevent such accidents in the future," he said in the commentary, which also appeared in the New York Times and Washington Post.

Frustrations have been mounting over plant operator TEPCO's failure to resolve the nuclear crisis, which began when the 46-foot (14-meter) tsunami knocked out power and cooling systems at the Fukushima Dai-ichi complex.

Explosions, fires and other malfunctions have hindered efforts to repair the plant and stem radiation leaks, and officials reported late Saturday that levels of radioactivity had again risen sharply in seawater near the plant, signaling the possibility of new leaks.

Workers have been spraying massive amounts of water on the overheated reactors. Some of that water, contaminated with radiation, has leaked into the Pacific. Plant officials said they plugged that leak on April 5 and radiation levels in the sea dropped.

Authorities have insisted the radioactivity will dissipate and poses no immediate threat to sea creatures or people who might eat them. Most experts agree.

Regardless, plant workers on Saturday began dumping

sandbags filled with sand and zeolite, a mineral that absorbs radioactive cesium, into the sea to combat the radiation leaks.

Radiation has also leaked into the air, forcing the evacuation of tens of thousands of people and contaminating crops and sea products.

Government officials fanned out across the affected areas during the weekend seeking to explain evacuation decisions and

calm nerves. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano met Sunday with the governor of Fukushima, who has vigorously protested the predicament the nuclear crisis poses for his prefecture.

"The safety of residents is our foremost priority," Edano said. "I told the governor that the government will do everything it can to prevent the crisis from worsening."

On Saturday, Edano's deputy,

UN panel urges probe of alleged Sri Lankan abuses

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—A U.N. panel has called for a thorough investigation into what it calls credible allegations that war crimes were committed by both sides in Sri Lanka as its decades-old civil war drew to a close nearly two years ago.

A copy of the three-member panel's report was printed Saturday in The Island newspaper. The report called the conduct of the war a "grave assault" on international law and said there were credible allegations that the Sri Lankan government and Tamil Tiger rebels committed serious violations, including some that could amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

"The (Sri Lankan) government says it pursued a 'humanitarian rescue operation' with a policy of 'zero civilian casualties.' In stark contrast, the panel found credible allegations, which if proven, indicate that a wide range of serious violations were committed" by both sides, the report said.

The panel said tens of thousands died in just the last five months of the war that ended in May 2009. Most of the civilians were killed in government shelling, it said.

The panel also faulted U.N. bodies and international officials for failing to take steps that could have protected lives and not publicly releasing casualty figures to raise awareness of the abuses.

The panel gathered evidence for 10 months and submitted its

Tetsuro Fukuyama, apologized to a gathering of residents in Iitate village, parts of which the government recommended be evacuated because of the nuclear crisis.

Residents attending the meeting, many of them farmers, angrily complained, saying they could not just leave their livestock or move them elsewhere.

Clinton visits Tokyo in show of support for Japan

TOKYO (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton expressed admiration and sympathy Sunday for the Japanese as she visited Tokyo to show American solidarity with its longtime ally as it recovers from a devastating earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis.

Clinton touched down in Tokyo on Sunday for a several-hour visit during which she is meeting with senior Japanese officials, including the prime minister, emperor and empress.

She said she was visiting "to demonstrate our very strong bonds of friendship that go very deep into the hearts of our people."

The visit is meant to be a morale boost for Japan, the most important American ally in Asia, as it rebuilds from the March 11 quake and tsunami while enduring strong daily aftershocks. The country also is coping with a crisis at a nuclear plant that was disabled by the disaster.

"There has been a great outpouring of concern, sympathy and admiration for the great resilience and spirit the Japanese people have shown throughout this very difficult period," Clinton said before a meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Takeaki Matsumoto.

Just one year after tensions over U.S. military bases in Japan forced out a prime minister, relief operations mounted by American soldiers after the earthquake and tsunami helped show a new and welcome face for troops the Japanese have hosted—sometimes grudgingly—for decades.

Roughly 20,000 U.S. troops were mobilized in "Operation Tomodachi," or "Friend," the biggest bilateral humanitarian mission the U.S. has conducted in Japan. The U.S. is also helping Japan cope with the crisis at a radiation-leaking nuclear plant damaged in the tsunami.

Clinton will return home later Sunday.

more detail soon.

The U.N. panel said it found credible allegations that the government's widespread shelling caused a large number of civilian deaths in the Wanni region of northern Sri Lanka.

"This campaign constituted persecution of the population of the Wanni," it said.

"The government shelled on a large scale in three consecutive no fire zones, where it had encouraged the civilian population to concentrate. It shelled the United Nations hub, food distribution lines and near the International Committee of the Red Cross ships that were coming to pick up the wounded and their relatives from the beaches," the report said.

The Sri Lankan government, which received a copy of the report, issued a statement calling the report "fundamentally flawed and patently biased," saying it was "presented without any verification." The government said it will respond to the allegations in

from their homes by Beijing Public Security Bureau officers Saturday night, Bob Fu, president of the China Aid Association, a Christian rights group, said in an email. Fu said all other Shouwang leaders were under house arrest, though he didn't give an exact number. Some church members have lost their homes or jobs amid an official campaign to shut

down the church, he said.

NATO: 3 service members killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—NATO says three more of its service members have been killed in Afghanistan on one of the deadliest days for NATO troops in the country this year. The three deaths announced Sunday were

from two separate bomb attacks in the south on Saturday. That's the same day that five NATO service members were killed in a suicide bombing by a Taliban sleeper agent at a U.S. base in the east. NATO has not identified the nationalities of any of the dead. The international military coalition typically waits for national authorities to make such announcements. The

majority of troops in both the east and south are American, though there are forces from other nations in both regions.

Earthquake shakes Australia, New Zealand

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)—Moderate earthquakes rattled parts of Australia and New Zealand on Saturday, including the devastated city of Christchurch

where power was cut to thousands of homes, officials said. No major damage was reported from either quake, and no tsunami warning was issued. The magnitude-5.2 quake that struck Christchurch was far less powerful than one that leveled office blocks and homes in the New Zealand city on Feb. 22, killing at least 169 people and devastating the downtown area.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Underground Beijing church leaders detained

BEIJING (AP)—At least two pastors from an underground Beijing church were in police custody and numerous other leaders remained under house arrest Sunday as part of a crackdown on the unregistered Shouwang congregation, a U.S.-based rights group said. The two pastors were taken

World

More shelling in rebel-held city in western Libyan

AJDABIYA, Libya (AP)—Moammar Gadhafi's forces poured rocket fire after dawn Saturday into Misrata, the only western city still in rebel hands, and weary residents who have endured more than a month of fighting angrily lashed out at NATO for failing to halt the deadly assault.

Five civilians were killed in a 30-minute barrage of shelling that heavily damaged a factory for dairy products and sent up a thick column of black smoke, a doctor said. A human rights group has accused the Gadhafi regime of using cluster bombs in Misrata—munitions that can cause indiscriminate casualties and have been banned by most countries. The Libyan government and military denied the charge.

In eastern Libya, fierce fighting left seven rebels dead, 27 wounded and four missing as the anti-Gadhafi forces sought to push toward the strategic oil town of Brega, according to Mohammed Idris, a hospital supervisor in the nearby city of Ajdabiya. The battle took place on a road halfway between Ajdabiya and Brega.

Frustration was growing among residents in Misrata, where Gadhafi's troops have intensified their long siege of the city in recent days. The doctor sharply criticized NATO for failing to break the assault with its month-old campaign of airstrikes.

"We have not seen any protection of civilians," the doctor said. "NATO airstrikes are not enough, and the proof is that there are civilians killed every day here," he said.

The theme was echoed in the rebel stronghold of Benghazi, Libya's second-largest city and the rebels' main stronghold, would be in "com-



AP
Libyan Army Maj. Gen. Saleh Abdullah Ibrahim gestures during a press conference in Tripoli, Libya, Saturday, April 16, 2011.

plete danger."

The Misrata doctor said Gadhafi's forces are taking shelter in residential areas that civilians had fled, apparently confident that NATO won't risk attacking them there.

But the troops have so far been unable to fully occupy the city of 300,000 people, he said, so instead they are targeting sites such as the dairy plant or the port to prevent the arrival of humanitarian aid.

The doctor, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he feared government retribu-

tion, said a civilian who was brought to him had been nearly torn in half by a mortar shell and was not expected to live.

NATO officials have said it is difficult to strike Gadhafi's forces when in an urban area. NATO did say its strikes on Friday destroyed two tanks in the Misrata area.

At a news conference Saturday night in Tripoli, Maj. Gen. Saleh Abdullah Ibrahim denied that the Libyan military is using heavy weapons in Misrata.

When asked whether the NATO airstrikes have had an impact on the Libyan forces, he said he did not know.

"I am a member of the regular armed forces. This type of information is only in the higher ranks of the armed forces," he said.

Ibrahim confirmed that prisoners had been taken, but would not say how many.

Rebels in Misrata and the New York-based group Human Rights Watch have alleged that Gadhafi's forces have been using cluster bombs, which pose particular risk to civilians because they scatter small bomblets over a wide area. Most of the world's nations have banned the use of the munitions.

Human Rights Watch said its researchers inspected remnants of the weapons found in a Misrata neighborhood and interviewed witnesses.

Ibrahim said the accusations were "unfounded," adding that Libya did not have "these kinds of weapons in our depot, and no single Libyan has been trained on this."

"We are calling for those who show these kinds of weapons to give us the material evidence," he said.

Raul Castro proposes political term limits in Cuba

HAVANA (AP)—Raul Castro proposed term limits Saturday for Cuban politicians—including himself—a remarkable gesture on an island ruled for 52 years by him and his brother. The 79-year-old president lamented the lack of young leaders in government, saying the country was paying the price for errors made in the past.

Castro told delegates to a crucial Communist Party summit that he would launch a "systematic rejuvenation" of the government. He said politicians and other important officials should be restricted to two consecutive five-year terms, including "the current president of the Council of State and his ministers"—a reference to himself.

Castro officially took over from his brother Fidel in 2008, meaning he would be at least 86 at the end of a second term, depending on how

the law is written.

The proposal was made toward the end of a 2 1/2 hour speech in which the Cuban leader forcefully backed a laundry list of changes to the country's socialist economic system, including the eventual elimination of ration books and other subsidies, the decentralization of the island nation's economy and a new reliance on supply and demand in some sectors.

Still, he drew a line in the Caribbean sand as to which reforms should remain, telling party luminaries that he had rejected dozens of suggested reforms that would have allowed the concentration of property in private hands.

Castro said the country had ignored its problems for too long, and made clear Cuba

had to make tough decisions if it wanted to survive.

"No country or person can spend more than they have," he said. "Two plus two is four. Never five, much less six or seven—as we have sometimes pretended."

Dressed in a white guayabera shirt, the Cuban leader alternated between reassurances that the economic changes were compatible with socialism, and a brutal assessment of the mistakes the country had made. Fidel Castro was not present for the speech.

Raul Castro said the monthly ration book of basic foods, perhaps the most cherished of subsidies, represented an "unbearable burden ... and a disincentive for work."



Castro

Ivory Coast party leader: Lay down your arms

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast

(AP)—The leader of strongman Laurent Gbagbo's party urged die-hard militants to lay down their arms and called for national reconciliation Saturday, even as shooting erupted in a suburb of Abidjan.

Pascal Affi N'Guessan read a declaration to the nation saying "the war has ended" following Gbagbo's arrest Monday. He urged "an end to the death of our compatriots," saying the people of Ivory Coast must "give a chance to the restoration of peace" and halt the "revenge killings, the looting."

Gbagbo, who has ruled since 2000, refused to accept defeat at Nov. 28 elections that he had delayed for five years. He took a last stand in Abidjan, the commercial capital, where remaining loyalist troops turned heavy weapons on civilians. He was arrested by forces loyal to internationally recognized President Alassane Ouattara after U.N. and French troops bombed the presidential palace.

"The FPI is very devas-

tated by the chaotic situation and presents its sympathies to the families of all those who have died," said Affi N'Guessan, leader of the Ivorian Popular Front.

International journalists initially were prevented from hearing his declaration by an officer of forces who fought to install Ouattara and who themselves are accused of killing hundreds of civilians in what could amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity. Only Ouattara's Ivorian Radio and Television, known by its French acronym RTI, was first allowed to film the declaration.

But journalists telephoned ministers in Ouattara's Cabinet complaining, and were later allowed to separately record Affi N'Guessan's statement.

He spoke after shooting erupted Saturday morning in Abidjan's sprawling Yopougon neighborhood on the outskirts of the commercial capital, where Gbagbo fighters have sought refuge and pro-Ouattara fighters were trying to disarm them, residents of the area said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Nigerian election mostly peaceful though kids vote

KAYAWA, Nigeria (AP)—Nigerians voted for president in an election Saturday many hoped would show Africa's most populous nation could hold a credible poll without the violence and rigging that marred previous ones, though children cast ballots and party officials helped others press their inked fingers to paper. Despite widespread security concerns after bombs hit a voting center and a polling station during last weekend's legislative elections, voting in the oil-rich country was largely peaceful Saturday though a police officer was fatally shot in the volatile northeast. "In recent decades, Nigeria had come to be known for flawed elections.

People outside and Nigerians themselves had come to believe that elections could not reflect the will of the people. But, today people showed that they can change that," said former Botswana President Festus Mogae, who led the Commonwealth Observer Group.

Tobago relies on Facebook to promote goat racing

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—The Caribbean island of Tobago wants your vote—for a goat. Every year around Easter, the island hosts a goat race, and tourism officials are using Facebook hoping to drum up more attention for this year's Buccoo Goat Race Festival—scheduled for April 25-26. They have launched a Facebook application called "Vote for your Goat." Fans can become virtual jockeys after picking one of 20 goats. The person who ends up with the most "likes" will win a weekend for two on Tobago.

President Obama and the U.S. Congress for \$205 million in aid to develop a new Israeli-made missile defense system. The aid was approved Friday. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Saturday that the assistance reflects "America's unshakable commitment to Israel in critical times." Israel first used its Iron Dome defense system last week, shooting down eight rockets launched by Gaza militants toward Israeli cities. Experts say Iron Dome is the first system in the world capable of intercepting rudimentary rockets used by militants.

Israel thanks US for funding rocket defense system

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel's prime minister has thanked

Health & Fitness

Odd work schedules pose risk to health

By RANDOLPH E. SCHMID
AP SCIENCE WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Reports of sleeping air traffic controllers highlight a long-known and often ignored hazard: Workers on night shifts can have trouble concentrating and even staying awake.

"Government officials haven't recognized that people routinely fall asleep at night when they're doing shift work," said Dr. Charles Czeisler, chief of sleep medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Czeisler said studies show that 30 percent to 50 percent of night-shift workers report falling asleep at least once a week while on the job.

So the notion that this has happened only a few times among the thousands of controllers "is preposterous," he said in a telephone interview.

In a sign of growing awareness of the problem, the Federal Aviation Administration said Saturday it was changing air traffic controllers' work schedules most likely to cause fatigue. The announcement comes after

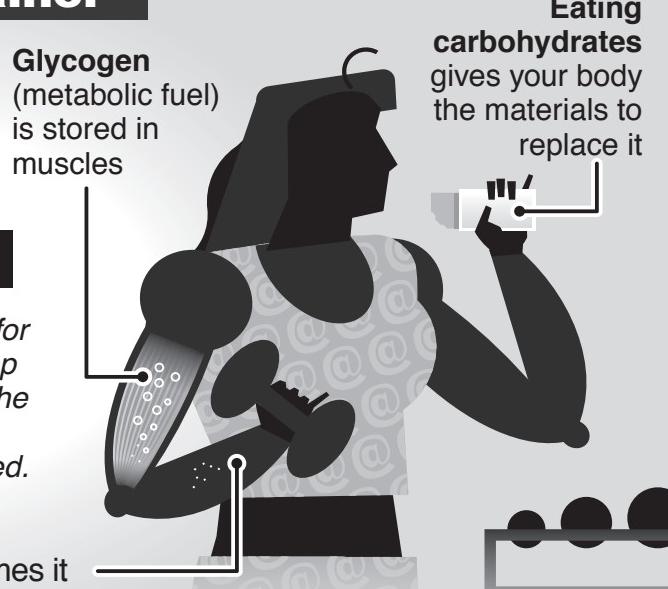
In this Sept. 18, 2008 file photo, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Chief Operating Officer Hank Krakowski poses in the cockpit of an FAA jet in a hangar at Washington's Reagan National Airport. Krakowski, the official who oversees the nation's air traffic system resigned Thursday and the FAA began a "top to bottom" review of the entire system following disclosures of four instances of air traffic controllers sleeping on the job.



Personal Trainer

Muscles running low on fuel

After working out hard for weeks, you may develop deep fatigue because the chemical fuel stored in your muscles is depleted.



Exercise consumes it



To replace muscle glycogen most effectively

During the first 30 minutes after hard exercise, eat carbohydrates

After 30 minutes, this "window of opportunity" closes

Soon after workout consume

- 50 to 100 grams of carbohydrates

PLUS

- 10 to 20 grams of protein to repair damaged muscle

Equivalent to

- 1 or 2 average sports bars
- 1 or 2 large bananas
- 1 or 2 large bagels



- 1 or 2 average sports bars
- 2 or 3 oz. (50 to 75 g) lean meat or fish



Also remember to

- Avoid foods high in fat
- Drink plenty of water to rehydrate your body

Source: Jane Foos of Mayo Health System Red Cedar Clinic Graphic: Paul Trap © 2011 MCT

the agency disclosed another incident in which a controller fell asleep while on duty early Saturday morning at a busy Miami regional facility. According to a preliminary review, there was no impact to flight operations, the FAA said.

Czeisler said the potential danger isn't limited to air traffic controllers, but can apply to truck and bus drivers, airline pilots and those in the maritime industry. Who else? Factory workers, police, firefighters, emergency workers, nurses and doctors, cooks, hotel employees, people in the media and others on night or changing shifts.

"We live in a very sleep-deprived society where many people are burning the candle at both ends," Czeisler said. He said that a half-century ago, just 2 percent of people slept six hours or less per night; today it's 28 percent.

Dr. William Fishbein, a neuroscientist at the City University of New York, said that when people work odd shifts "it mucks up their biological rhythms."

Hormones are synchronized with the wake-sleep cycle. When people change shifts, the brain never knows when it's supposed to be asleep, so this affects how people function.

People who change shifts every few days are going to have all kinds of problems related to memory and learning, Fishbein said. This kind of schedule especially affects what he called relational memories, which involve the ability to understand how one thing is related to another.

In addition to drowsiness and inability to concentrate, people working night shifts are more subject to chronic intestinal and heart diseases and have been

ON THE NET

- Brigham and Women's Hospital's Division of Sleep Medicine: <http://tinyurl.com/3sl18q7>
- National Sleep Foundation: <http://www.sleepfoundation.org/>

shown to have a higher incidence of some forms of cancer. The World Health Organization has classified shift work as a probable carcinogen.

"We have 500 cable channels, we take work home with us on our Blackberrys and computers, both work and entertainment options are available 24 hours a day seven days a week and there is much more and brighter light exposure in our homes in evenings, which affects hormones involved in sleep," Czeisler said.

"And we are still trying to get up with the chickens because our work hours are starting earlier and earlier," he said.

Today, controllers are at the center of the firestorm, with recent reports that several planes couldn't contact airport towers for assistance in landing. Members of Congress are responding to a worried public, controllers have been suspended and the head of the government's air traffic control system has resigned.

President Barack Obama told ABC News that controllers must stay alert and do their jobs.

One old solution back in the news is allowing night workers to nap.

"There should be sanctioned on-shift napping. That's the way to handle night shift work," said Gregory Belenky, a sleep expert at Washington State University in Spokane.

A NASA study suggested that pilots on long-distance flights

would perform much better if given a chance to take a scheduled nap, as long the rest was planned and the both pilots didn't sleep at the same time.

"But even though that's been known for decades, it's never been allowed because we prefer to pretend that these things are not happening," instead of managing the problem, Czeisler said. "We have a bury-our-head-in-the-sand attitude."

Controllers are often scheduled for a week of midnight shifts followed by a week of morning shifts and then a week on swing shifts. This pattern, sleep scientists say, interrupts the body's natural sleep cycles.

Many of the Federal Aviation Administration's 15,700 controllers work schedules that allow no realistic opportunity for rest. Their record for errors on the job has grown sharply over the past several years.

FAA rules prohibit sleeping on the job, even during breaks.

Employees who violate them can be fired. But controllers told The Associated Press that napping at night where one controller works two jobs while the other sleeps, and then they swap, is an open secret within the agency.

Czeisler also is urging screening of truck drivers for sleep apnea, a breathing problem they can be prone to because many are obese. He estimates that as many as 250,000 people in the U.S. doze off while driving every day, mostly in the daytime.

Studies have shown that a sleep-deprived driver is as impaired as someone with enough alcohol in his blood to be considered a drunken driver.

Even a drunk has some reflexes. "If you fall asleep, your performance is much worse," he said.

Life & Style

MacNeil returns to PBS to tell story of autism

BOSTON (AP)—It's been 16 years since Robert MacNeil sat behind an anchor's desk and a decade since half of PBS's famous MacNeil/Lehrer news team did any street reporting.

It took a 6-year-old autistic boy named Nick to persuade MacNeil to work in front of the camera again.

Nick is MacNeil's grandson, and he's featured in the first segment of a six-part series on autism that the 80-year-old MacNeil reported for the PBS NewsHour, which airs starting Monday.

In the segment, MacNeil explores his family's sacrifices raising an autistic child and reveals the pain experienced by his daughter, 10-year-old granddaughter, even himself. He begins the segment: "It's not easy connecting with Nick."

In 50 years of reporting, MacNeil has never brought his family into a story. He said he has no idea how viewers will react, but he noticed a difference as a journalist.

"We've all done stories where you're present at the tragedy in someone's life, and you feel enormous compassion for them, and then at the end you say, 'Thank you, I hope we haven't intruded too much,' and then

you go away," he said in an interview. "When it's a member of your own family, you can't leave the story."

MacNeil's daughter, Alison, said her father's return sends a message to viewers beyond what they'll see and hear.

"It says, 'I think this is so important, I'm coming back to the air to do it,'" she said.

Nick, who lives with his parents and sister in a Cambridge apartment, was diagnosed with autism when he was 1 1/2. MacNeil's daughter said she soon realized she had to do whatever she could to promote independent research on autism, and she began pushing her father in around 2007 to do the series.

"He's going to listen to me, he cared deeply for my child and he could hear the pain. I mean, autism has been devastating for my family," she said. "If we could get something on the mainstream media that would show some balanced coverage on autism, I felt we would be doing something important."

MacNeil, who runs a production company with longtime co-anchor Jim Lehrer, said he never intended to do that kind of reporting again and felt self-conscious about a return after being away so long. But he soon



In this January 2011 still photo taken from video, PBS newsman Robert MacNeil, right, interacts with Nick, his 6-year-old grandson, at Nick's family's home in Cambridge, Mass. AP

began to feel it was "imperative" to tell about the disorder, in part through the experience of his own family.

"All your children move you, and your grandchildren move you, of course," MacNeil said. "But it's particularly poignant when you know there's a condition that you can't go to a hospital and come back cured from."

The series, called Autism Now, covers various aspects of the disorder including its causes, prevalence and treatment. Nick's and his family's last name are withheld in their segment, but they don't hold back much else.

Alison tells her father she hired a baby sitter after Nick was diagnosed so she could go cry in her car.

Her daughter, Neely, talks with moving honesty about how she resents that her brother's autism consumes the family's emotions and resources. When

MacNeil asks her about the future, Neely says: "I hope that he doesn't have to stay with me, kind of, and I hope that he gets healed soon."

Autism is the world's fastest growing developmental disability, currently affecting about one in 110 children.

The segment highlights improvements in Nick's health and autism since the family began getting treatment for illnesses often accepted as just part of autism, such as severe diarrhea.

The love the family shares with Nick comes through, particularly when MacNeil accompanies Nick and his father, David, for the daily ride after work on bus number 72 - Nick insists it has to be 72.

"I'm lost in admiration for the patience and courage Alison and Dave bring to his constant care," MacNeil narrates.

April is National Autism Awareness Month, but Alison said more awareness is not what she's after.

"I couldn't be more sick of the word awareness. If I were any more aware of autism, I'd be dead," she said. "I think we've moved beyond the point where awareness is necessary. I think it's time we moved to action."

Jack White hails Record Store Day, new releases

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Music fans started lining up outside Jack White's Third Man Records shortly after midnight, vying for something special on Record Store Day.

White was more than willing to accommodate them, opening his store a little early Saturday for vinyl enthusiasts.

"Record stores are closing all over the place, yet vinyl record sales are the only thing growing in the music industry," White told The Associated Press. "So it's a beautiful thing that everyone can come together and release these special releases, whether they're brand new or old or obscure or never released tracks, whatever they are, it's really cool that people can get out and buy them. I mean look at how many people are here to buy records. That's pretty cool. Very cool."

Labels big and small released more than 300 items exclusive to Record Store Day this year, the fourth year of the celebration meant to draw fans to their local independent record store. That's nearly twice as many as last year.

White contributed two 7-inch rereleases of The White Stripes' first singles and those tiny platters of goodness brought Craig Jackson and Mark Klacik out at 2 a.m. to camp behind Grimey's New and Preloved Music, a record store about a mile from

Third Man Records.

"We slept right here under this tree in the rain," Jackson said.

They fired up a grill to warm up and cook a breakfast of steak, sausage and toast. As the store's opening approached, hundreds stood behind them in a line that wrapped around the block.

Clouds threatened more rain and a chilly wind dropped temperatures into the 50s but that didn't deter anyone. However, the severe weather did postpone the Jerry Lee Lewis' concert at White's record store until Sunday.

Before the concert was postponed, White talked about Lewis, known as The Killer.

"This is a guy who he was setting his piano on fire before Hendrix did it," White said. "That shows you how wild the early days of rock 'n' roll were and how important it was, breaking up the cookie cutter sort of clean-cut pop music that was out there at the time. It's just as important today as it was then. He's a founding father and it's incredible to even be able to do something like this."

The Lewis concert wasn't the only one involving big names. The Foo Fighters were scheduled to play at Fingerprints Records in Los Angeles. My Morning Jacket set up at CD Central in Lexington, Ky., The Drive-By Truckers were at Plan 9 Music in Charlottesville, Va. and The Del Mc-

Coury Band teamed with the Preservation Hall Jazz Band in Greenfield, Wis.

At Grimey's, Jackson and Klacik, both 27-year-old, carried blue carry-all bags to haul their loot.

"After it stopped raining it kind of got colder," Jackson said. "We got soaked but it was kind of worth it."

Doyle Davis, owner of Grimey's, turned the day into a true celebration with eight concerts by acts like Matt & Kim and Jason Isbell.

He's had customers inquiring about the Ryan Adams double 7-inch, the Nirvana "Hoarmoaning" EP rerelease and the release of the test-pressing of Big Star's "Third" for days. He was initially worried about the cash outlay for all that product, but the line around the block took the pressure off.

"This is the biggest event we've ever tried to set up," Davis said.

James Riley, his son Connor and girlfriend Heather Barrett had already hit two record stores by the time they made it to Third Man Records. Connor had his heart set on The White Stripes 7-inches and some new Jimi Hendrix, and scored both at The Great Escape, another Nashville record store.

"He's probably the only 10-year-old who plays records for his friends," Riley said.

In Celebration of Her New Life

†Dolores Cepeda Benavente Salas

Born: June 22, 1943 • Died: April 11, 2011

In her new life, she now joins her:

Husband:	†Deacon Modesto Arriola Salas
Parents:	†Juan Villagomez Benavente, †Rita Cepeda Benavente
Parents In Law:	†Enrique Fausto Salas, †Magdalena Arriola Salas
Siblings:	†Silveria B. Mendiola, †Luis C. Benavente
In Laws:	†Juana Arriola Salas, †Rosalia Salas/†Pedro DLG. Jesus, †Jose DLG. Sablan, †Allen J. Cameron

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Children & Families:

- **Mae Benavente Salas** (Joaquin S. Reyes, Jr., Jackary Reyes, D'Andra Deleon Guerrero)
- **John Henry Benavente & Fae Gutierrez Salas** (John Jr./Elvielyn (Jaydiss Trinity), Tiajavika)
- **Gerard Benavente & Margarita Tudela Salas** (Hiroki, Hiroyuki, Hiroaki)
- **Linoa Maui Benavente**

Siblings & In Laws:

Jacinto B. Mendiola, Maria Benavente Sablan, Trinidad Benavente Cameron, Fernando & Lorna Benavente, Ignacio & Evelyn S. Benavente, Katherine S. Benavente, Teresita B. & Jesus Aldan, Roman & Andrea A. Benavente, Natalia Maui Care taker: Vickie Faldas

She is additionally survived by numerous goddaughters, godsons, nieces and nephews.

Daily Mass is being offered at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 6:00 a.m. and the Holy Rosary will be at 7:00 p.m. in the evening.

On Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 7:30 a.m., our beloved's remains will be escorted from the Borja's Funeral Home to Mount Carmel Cathedral Church for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. followed by interment service at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are deeply appreciated

Children and Family

Miley Cyrus says her family is fine

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Miley Cyrus says she feels more at ease heading out on an international tour now that things are fine on the home front.

Earlier this year, her parents, Billy Ray and Tish Cyrus, were getting a divorce, and her father was critical of his daughter's behavior. But the Cyruises recently called off their divorce and the family is spending time together.

"I think it's good, especially when you go on the road. You have to make sure everyone is happy before you start traveling, you're away. My family is good. They are stoked for tour. As long as I'm happy they are happy," Cyrus said in an interview on Thursday.

The former "Hannah Montana" star is leaving for South America and Australia on April 27 for her Gypsy Heart Tour. It will be the first time Cyrus, whose most recent album is titled "Can't Be Tamed," has gone to South America, and she's excited—even though she won't be able to communicate with her fans in their language.

"I speak zero Spanish. I actually failed Spanish so I will have someone with me making sure I can get through my way," she said.

She recently released one of the album's songs, "Every Rose Has Its Thorn," in Australia, and said she's excited to sing the Poison cover (which featured Bret Michaels) there live.



In this April 2, 2011 file photo, actress Miley Cyrus accepts the award for "Favorite Movie Actress" at Nickelodeon's 24th Annual Kids' Choice Awards in Los Angeles. AP

Dick, Jerry Van Dyke team in 'Sunshine Boys'



In this file photo taken on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2010, actor Dick Van Dyke rehearses for his upcoming one-man show in Los Angeles. AP

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jerry Van Dyke had to push his older sibling, Dick, into joining him on stage in "The Sunshine Boys" but says the pair are making magic together.

"We have that chemistry just from being brothers," said Jerry Van Dyke. "It's our first time on stage together, and it's such a thrill at our age to do this."

In the Neil Simon comedy at a Malibu theater, the siblings play aged ex-vaudevillians who reunite for a TV special despite a longtime feud.

Opening night Wednesday "worked like magic" and drew big audience laughs, Jerry Van Dyke said. The scenes in which the bickering comedians tussle were crowd-pleasers, he said, especially given their ages: Jerry is 79 and Dick is 85.

They've only appeared together a handful of times on TV, including Jerry Van Dyke's guest appearances on the classic "The Dick Van Dyke Show" in the 1960s and on Dick Van Dyke's "Diagnosis Murder" in the 1990s.

Jerry Van Dyke already had played in "The Sunshine Boys," which he's also directing, when he decided to push his big brother into coming along.

"I bugged him to death. He knew the play but didn't know how great Neil Simon's writing was in it," Jerry Van Dyke said. "It's the highlight of my life ... to have something like this happen."

His brother also was thrilled, he said. The audience has included Craig T. Nelson ("Parenthood"), who starred in the 1989-97 sitcom "Coach" in

which Jerry Van Dyke was an Emmy-nominated cast member.

The Malibu Stage Company production of "The Sunshine Boys," a limited-run fundraiser for the theater, ends Sunday.

There have been nibbles from New York about bringing the play to Broadway, Jerry Van Dyke said, but the trick is getting his brother to agree.

"I have the idea he'd say no, he couldn't do eight shows a week. But I think he's really getting into it," he said.

Dick Van Dyke gained fame with the 1960 musical "Bye Bye Birdie," for which he won a Tony Award. He was in the film version of the play and starred in other movies including "Mary Poppins" (1964) and "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (1968). He has an upcoming memoir.

AMC network is expanding into unscripted series

NEW YORK (AP)—AMC has flourished with its lineup of feature films and original dramas like "Mad Men" and "The Walking Dead." Now the network is expanding into unscripted series with a show that tells the inside story of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Filming for "Inside the DHS" is set to begin this summer, with the cooperation

of that agency and its boss, Secretary Janet Napolitano, according to AMC's head of original programming, Joel Stillerman. The eight-episode series will premiere in late 2011, Stillerman said Friday.

"This is not about presenting an exposé, but to celebrate an absolutely massive effort that goes on day to day to keep us safe," Stillerman said.

Next, AMC plans an unscripted series that will probe the advertising industry. Each

episode of "The Pitch" will follow ad agencies as they pitch accounts and create new campaigns.

"As a culture, we're fascinated with the world of advertising, but we rarely get to see what really goes on behind the scenes of this high-stakes, cut-throat business," Stillerman said. "The Pitch" is scheduled to premiere next year.

But she won't be releasing that song in the United States, and right now, she has no plans to tour in her native country either.

"I just think right now America has gotten to a place where I don't know if they want me to tour or not. Right now I just

want to go to the places where I am getting the most love and Australia and South America have done that for me," she said. "Kind of going to the places where I get the most love. Don't want to go anywhere where I don't feel completely comfortable with it."

Judge approves 4 test cases against UK tabloid

LONDON (AP)—Actress Sienna Miller and three other alleged victims of a British tabloid phone-hacking scandal could push ahead with suing the News of The World newspaper, a judge said Friday.

High Court judge Geoffrey Vos said the four cases should not be delayed by an ongoing criminal investigation into the tabloid's conduct.

Police were investigating the paper to establish its role in a series of illegal interceptions into celebrities' mobile phone voicemails, and three of the paper's journalists have been detained for questioning.

Vos said the four "test cases"—the most well-advanced out of more than 20 similar lawsuits—should be heard first.

The cases would focus on whether there was interception, how much was carried out, what was done with the information and what damage was suffered, Vos said. They could provide guidance for potential damages the other alleged victims can claim, he added.

Michael Silverleaf, the lawyer for News Group, which publishes News of The World, said the company last week offered to settle the case with Miller for 100,000 pounds (around

\$165,000). She has 21 days to accept the settlement. Seven other claimants also received apologies from the newspaper.

Silverleaf argued that Miller's case should not be allowed to continue because she is not likely to win more than the settlement amount.

"She cannot realistically recover more than we are offering," he told the judge.

But Miller's lawyer, Hugh Tomlinson, said money was not the primary motivation for many of the claimants.

"Damages are an aspect, but when private information is involved, the kind of relief people are looking for goes beyond simply monetary compensation," he said.

The paper acknowledged last week the practice of illegal hacking was more widespread than it had maintained. For a long time, News of The World insisted that the practice was confined to two rogue employees, who were jailed in 2007 for eavesdropping on voicemail messages of royal employees.

It is not yet clear how many people's phones were targeted by the paper's reporters. Many critics say hundreds could have been involved.



In this Friday, Oct. 15, 2010 file picture, Sienna Miller arrives at the Esquire House LA Opening Night Event and International Medical Corps Benefit in Beverly Hills, Calif. AP

Actor Nicolas Cage arrested in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Actor Nicolas Cage was arrested after he got drunk in the city's French Quarter and argued in the street with his wife over whether a house they were in front of was theirs, police said Saturday.

The couple was in front of a home that Cage insisted they were renting, police said. When she said it wasn't theirs, Cage grabbed her arm, according to a police news release.

Cage started hitting vehicles and tried to get into a taxi, police said. An officer saw that Cage was drunk and told him to get out of the cab. Cage then started yelling at the officer.

The actor has been booked on charges of domestic abuse battery, disturbing the peace and public drunkenness. He was released on \$11,000 bond Saturday.

Representatives for Cage could not immediately be reached Saturday.

Cage has been a frequent visitor to New Orleans, where he has owned property and shot movies. He has also had financial troubles, despite being one of the highest-paid stars in Hollywood.

He had been behind on taxes and has said he's had to



This booking photo released by Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office shows actor Nicolas Cage Saturday, April 16, 2011 in New Orleans.

sell numerous assets because of his finances. He sued his former business manager in

October 2009 for \$20 million, claiming the man's advice led him to financial ruin.

Cage won an Academy Award for his performance in 1995's "Leaving Las Vegas."

George Michael covers Wonder as royal wedding gift

LONDON (AP)—George Michael is giving the gift of song to Prince William and Kate Middleton—and anyone else who wants

to download it.

The musician is making his cover of Stevie Wonder's "You and I" available to download for

free and hopes fans will make a donation to the Royal Wedding Charity Fund. Michael debuted the song Friday on CNN's "Piers Morgan Tonight."

Michael said he spent about two days in the studio crafting the cover and that Wonder provided clearance to distribute the track for free.

"The idea came to me last week, about a week ago, that I should express my happiness at

the marriage publicly," Michael told Morgan.

Michael was a friend of William's mother, the late Princess Diana, but he said he wasn't expecting to attend the April 29 wedding. He tweeted that the couple should be "surrounded by people they love, not dodgy ex-con pop stars." The former Wham! singer spent a month in jail last year for crashing his Range Rover while under the influence of drugs.

Trump stalls TV contract while mulling campaign

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Donald Trump says he has put off agreeing to an extension of his "Celebrity Apprentice" reality show while he weighs a presidential bid.

The real estate mogul and potential Republican contender says he told NBC on Friday he could not commit to a three-year contract extension for the series until he decides whether he's running.

Trump spoke at an event at his Mar-a-Lago estate on Palm Beach. He offered familiar messages questioning President Barack Obama's birthplace.

He also said the U.S. should



be entitled to Iraqi oil and praised the tea party.

Trump says he's encouraged by polls showing him with a strong following and says he'll make an announcement on his campaign plans before June.

Michael

Playboy Mansion illness traced to hot tub bacteria

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles County health officials say the bacteria that causes Legionnaires' disease was found in a hot tub at the Playboy Mansion where scores of people became ill after attending a fundraiser in February.

The Los Angeles Times says health officials presented their findings Friday at an annual conference at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

The legionella bacteria also causes a milder illness called Pontiac fever. Symptoms include fever and headache.

Many people who attended a fundraiser party at the Playboy Mansion came down

with a respiratory illness after the DomainFest conference in February.

Officials contacted 439 people and found that 123 had fevers and at least one other symptom with 69 falling ill on the same day. Epidemiologists used social media to contact the conference attendees.

Martha Stewart touts hard work at NY commencement

HYDE PARK, N.Y. (AP)—Martha Stewart tells graduates from a New York culinary school that the keys to success are generosity, passion and hard work.

The homemaking maven gave the commencement address Friday at the Culinary In-

stitute of America in Hyde Park.

The institute gave the 69-year-old Stewart an award called Master of Aesthetics of Gastronomy, along with an official chef's jacket.

She told students that many people don't know how much

hard work it takes to build a business, but that any good idea is only as good as the effort behind it.

About 80 graduates received degrees in baking, pastry and culinary arts. Hyde Park is about 90 miles north of New York City.

Woman who rejects present is not worth gifting again

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I was recently invited to a relative's home because my nephew was introducing his fiancee, "Macy," to the family. I asked my nephew what gift Macy might like, and he suggested a sweater and told me her size. I bought her a lovely one—at least, I thought it was lovely.

After Macy tried it on, I was shocked when she handed it back to me and said she didn't like it. I couldn't exchange or return it because it had been purchased from a store where I live, and this store doesn't have a branch in their state. I took the gift home with me and got a refund. Now I don't know what to do.

Because Macy gave it back to me, does she forfeit the gift? Should I send her the amount of the store refund? Do I owe her anything as a substitute for the gift she refused? She will be a part of our family, and I need to know what to do if this happens again. I'd appreciate your thoughts.



Dear Abby

GIFT-CHALLENGED IN IOWA

DEAR GIFT-CHALLENGED: If ever I heard about someone who needs an etiquette book, it's your nephew's fiancee. Make it a thick one, because she appears to be clueless in that department. As to what to do if this happens again—you can prevent it from happening by not selecting any more gifts for her. A donation in her name to a favorite charity might work if you feel obligated to give her something.

DEAR ABBY: The love of my life, "Adam," is leaving for school in August. He's going to Portland, Ore., to pursue his studies in renewable energy engineering. My passion is nursing. I'm currently finishing up my college requirements and waiting to get into the program. My college credits won't transfer, so if I went with Adam, I'd either have to start over or wait until I got back home to resume.

I'm wary of long-distance relationships, but I don't want to be separated from Adam for two years. We have discussed taking turns flying out to see each other and staying in touch via phone and the Internet. But I still get sad thinking about the time we'll be apart. We are both determined individuals, and in the chaos of life we have managed to find a fairy tale. Everyone has given us their advice about our situation and it hasn't helped. Do you have any words of reassurance for us?

LOVELORN IN PHOENIX

DEAR LOVELORN: You and Adam appear to be intelligent, focused and mature young people. Although you have built a "fairy tale" together, building a solid future will take some sacrifice on both your parts. Being apart will allow each of you to concentrate fully on your studies. If you love each other, and it appears you do, you will get through the challenge and emerge stronger than ever.

DEAR ABBY: I found out my high school sweetheart has cancer and only a short time to live. I would like to send her flowers and a message—but without the knowledge of my wife of 43 years. Is this a bad idea?

OLD FLAME IN ILLINOIS

DEAR OLD FLAME: Frankly, I see no reason why you should sneak around to do it without your wife's knowledge. Tell her word has reached you that the woman is dying, that at the time you knew her she meant a lot to you, and you plan to send her flowers and a message. If your wife is so insecure that she would tell you not to, don't do it. But, please, don't beat around the bush or sneak around. You're all adults, and being secretive is childish.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: It's time to hide the matzo again—Passover begins at sundown. Happy Passover, everyone!

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: *Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet*, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



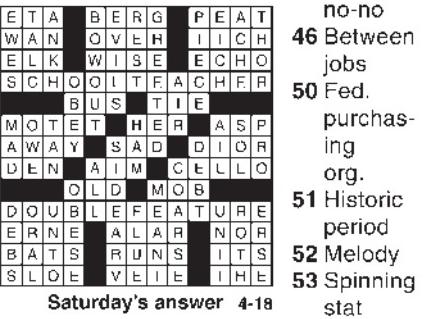
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40 — glance	DOWN	21	Fairway
1 — out a living	41 Ballet frill	1 Sprite	22 Touch	warning
4 Macho type	43 By chance	2 Pond	23 Dangerous	place to walk
9 Pigpen	45 Reflector	3 Ovum	4 Odium	place to
12 Journal	47 Gen. Lee's grp.	5 Wrote	27 Marceau	walk
13 Like a crone	48 Tokyo's old name	6 Wire	29 Choir	character
14 Rage	49 About	measure	30 Bang the door	voice
15 1999 Brad Pitt movie	5.88 trillion miles	7 Graduates	32 Tart	30, 33, 47
17 Pistol	54 Mountain	8 Space cloud	34 Moved to Sousa music	leo
18 Gold, in Guadala- jara	55 Painting support	9 Play music without preparation	37 Some fur pieces	Virgo
19 Makes a crumbly mass of	57 Casual shirt	56 Tear	39 Rook	Taurus
21 Like some calves	58 Coloration	10 Verifiable	42 Dickens' Mr. Heep	Aries
24 Coin aperture	59 Upper limb	11 Longings	44 Aye canceler	Gemini
25 Japanese sash	20 Category	16 Stolen	45 Vegan's no-no	Cancer
26 Society newcomer		20 Category	46 Between jobs	46 Cancer
28 Tapestry			50 Fed. purchasing org.	47 Gemini
31 Carpeting			51 Historic period	48 Leo
33 Poorly lit			52 Melody	49 Virgo
35 Snitch			53 Spinning stat	50 Libra
36 Group spirit				51 Scorpio
38 — -10 Confer- ence				52 Sagittarius

Solution time: 24 mins.



Saturday's answer 4-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Melissa Joan Hart, 35; Maria Bello, 44; Conan O'Brien, 48; Jane Leeves, 50

Happy Birthday: Use your ingenuity, strength and courage to gather the assistance you require to resolve a situation in your life that needs to be put to rest. Clear all turmoil and tension so you can think more clearly. The choices you have and how you decide to handle them will determine how you will do in the future. Diplomacy and discipline are essential for your advancement. Your numbers are 2, 13, 26, 28, 30, 33, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Partnerships will be difficult, causing uncertainty regarding your future. Bide your time and hear what is being said before you assess your situation or make an irreversible decision. A hidden agenda is cause for concern. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do what you do best and you will be appreciated for your skills. Discuss future plans with colleagues or superiors; you will plant a seed that will secure your position. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 22): Emotional matters are escalating. Nurture both personal and professional relationships to ease any negative feelings that are brewing. A misunderstanding can be easily rectified. **★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be careful how you conduct yourself in both business and social situations. You will attract plenty of attention but, if you are too pushy or sure of yourself, someone who doubts your ability to follow through will question your motives. **★★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more time and effort into your home and family or complaints can be expected.

The more you do to encourage growth and expansion in both your personal and professional lives, the further you will advance. **★★★**

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll face opposition, burdens and meddling if you are open about pursuits. Take a back seat and be the one observing rather than the one

leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Your personality will help you stand out at work and within any group or organization you join. Don't be surprised if someone feels left out or slighted by your obvious charm and ability to manipulate whatever situation you face. **★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Knowledge can be a powerful asset when applying for a position. Interviews will go well and discussions that pertain to your current position or a project you wish to work on will lead to advancement. Put time aside for romance. **★★★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll have the discipline to follow through with your plans and to create a situation that allows you to use your creative imagination to its fullest. No challenge will be too great for you. **★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your emotions will not steer you in the wrong direction. Show your feelings. Change may be daunting but, in the end, will lead to a much better space mentally, emotionally and physically. **★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more time and effort into your home and family or complaints can be expected. The more you do to encourage growth and expansion in both your personal and professional lives, the further you will advance. **★★★**

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll face opposition, burdens and meddling if you are open about pursuits. Take a back seat and be the one observing rather than the one

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGYCOPRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATEon display. Don't let any last-minute changes cause you to alter your plans. **★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): An unusual development in your financial situation is about to unfold. A change in the way you earn your living or deal with your money will result in a higher income and less stress. A contractual deal can be formulated and signed. **★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Creative accounting will save you a bundle and allow you greater freedom to do some of the projects you haven't been able to afford in the past. A partnership or agreement you make will pay off. **★★★★**

Birthday Baby: You are a powerhouse—a strong-willed, take-action person who will settle for nothing less than what you want. You will brave courageously any storm you face.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

1	8	6	7	5	3
3				4	
6	9		7		
7	1	6	4		8
6	7	4	5		
1	9	8	6	3	5
3	9	8			5
5	3	8	9	6	4
8			9		
9	4	1	2	3	7
5	1	2	3	4	6
7	6	8	9	5	4
4	3	2	8	7	6
9	4	1	2	3	8
5	6	4	7	3	1

Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

8	7	6	2	5	3	4	1	9
2	5	1	9	4	7	3	8	6
9	4	3	1	6	8	7	5	2
7	1	9	3	2	5	8	6	4
6	8	5	4	1	9	2	3	7
4	3	2	8	7	6	1	9	5
1	9	7	6	8	2	5	4	3
3	2	8	5	9	4	6	7	1
5	6	4	7	3	1	9	2	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID
OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HAVE A MAI TAI

D	H	S	I	N	R	A	G	T	C	I	T	O	X	E
G	O	G	M	I	N	T	R	S	T	I	C	K	N	
N	E	U	P	O	L	I	Q	U	I	D	K	A	N	O
I	M	A	B	H	P	U	K	G	T	N	H	O	L	T
R	I	V	C	L	L	R	R	A	I	S	M	○	S	E
P	L	A	E	Y	E	F	A	R	O	E	○	O	S	L
S	E	G	W	N	T	L	D	N	L	○	U	G	E	P
B	T	E	E	A	M	E	I	I	N	R	S	R	N	P
E	R	D	R	O	H	H	A	O	A	I	E	F	D	A
G	O	T	N	S	C	T	I	C	C	L	E	O	R	
N	P	D	U	S	K	T	H	S	I	O	X	A	O	E</

CLASSIFIED ADS


FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt, 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent. For \$200.00 / month Koblerville, please call 288-0728.

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for water truck, 3k to 3.5k gals/cap. Must be in good cond. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317 look for Jeremy or Norma

FOR SALE

Bar Gaia for Sale. Behind Tony Roma's, Garapan. Steve: 483-3415/steve78chae@gmail.com

WHATZIT Solution: Waste not, want not

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
**2 MECHANICS AND
1 INDUSTRIAL
ELECTRICIAN WITH
MOTOR GENERATOR
REWINDING
EXPERIENCE**

Salary: \$6.00 - 7.50 / hour
Contact: PMIC Power Plant 4
Telephone#: 322-6181
Email: cve@pmic.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

To all our valued customers:

Please be informed that the following employees are no longer affiliated/connected with **SAIPAN COOL WATER & ICE, INC.**

Arnel Orbita
Gregorio Jose (Bong)
Lorenzo DL Guerrero
Romill Millare (Bong)

Any transaction made by the above employees, will not be honored by Saipan Cool Water & Ice, Inc.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Petitioner

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In the Matter of the Estate of	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0098
NINFA TORRES ATTAAO,	NOTICE
Deceased.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Ninfa Torres Attao, deceased; and that the said petition will be heard by the Court on Tuesday, May 31, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 pm.

Notice is also given to all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Ninfa Torres Attao, deceased, and to all persons claiming an interest in said Estate, that they should file such claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days from the first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, attorney for Petitioner. All claims not so filed shall be forever barred.

DATED this 14th day of April, 2011.

/s/ Clerk of Court



"My wish is to have my own PC with a DVD player and CD burner!"

22 years of making wishes of eligible children with life-threatening illnesses come true!

MAKE-A-WISH®

Visit us at
865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza
Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH
Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawguam@ite.net
www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE
Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION
Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

FRIDAY JANUARY 7, 2011

Volume XXI, Issue No. 5

www.saipantribune.com 50¢

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA
jayeve_vallejera@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

OPINION METER

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

Sablan, other delegates come out swinging as 112th Congress opens

Call 235- NEWS

WHATZIT?TM

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Heat get a late scare, top 76ers in Game 1

MIAMI (AP)—Chris Bosh and LeBron James watched from afar when Dwyane Wade controlled the final portions of games during the Miami Heat's championship run in 2006.

They got a closer look Saturday, when Wade helped save Miami from a Game 1 collapse.

Bosh had 25 points and 12 rebounds, James added 21 points and 14 rebounds, and Wade scored five of his 17 points in the final 1:34 as the Heat held off a huge Philadelphia comeback try and beat the 76ers 97-89 in the opener of their Eastern Conference quarterfinal series.

"The only number that matters right now is 1-0," Wade said. "That's all it's about."

Game 2 is Monday night.

Thaddeus Young had 20 points and 11 rebounds for the 76ers, while Jrue Holiday added 19 and Elton Brand finished with 17. It was the second time in 22 days that Philadelphia blew a big second-quarter lead in Miami: On March 25, the 76ers led by 16, and on Saturday, the margin was 14.

The Heat won both, and are now 4-0 against the 76ers this season.

"Second time in three weeks that we had a big lead and let it slip," Brand said. "Right now, it's the playoffs. Win these games or go home. So it's more of a discouraging feeling knowing that we could have won these games."

Also much like that March 25 game: Philadelphia gave itself a shot down the stretch.

The 76ers scored 12 straight points in the fourth quarter, closing to 88-87—but never getting the lead back. Bosh made two free throws and Wade hit a tough bank shot to give Miami a five-point edge. And after Young scored Philadelphia's final points with 1:24 left, Wade sealed it with a pair of foul shots 14 seconds later.

"We'll take this first win," said Heat coach Erik Spoelstra, whose team has won 16 of its last 19 games overall. "Hopefully who we've been the last few weeks will be more who we'll be the rest of the series, particularly offensively. We were not very efficient tonight."

Wade, Bosh and James all were held under 50 percent shooting and Miami won anyway, in large part because the Heat held big edges in rebounding (52-39) and free throws.

Sixers coach Doug Collins spent much of Game 1 pointing out the game's free-throw discrepancy to the officiating crew—Miami finished 31 for 39, while Philadelphia was only 12 for 15.

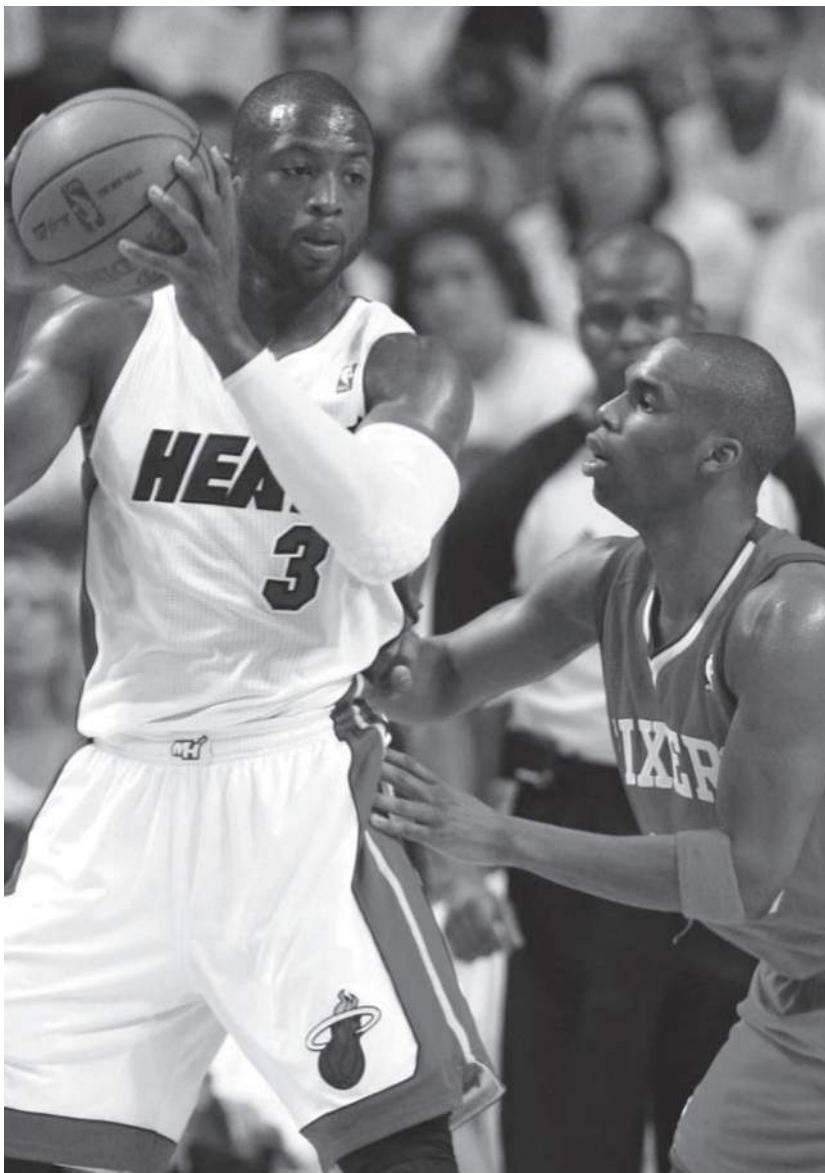
Afterward, he craftily took the high road.

"I could," Collins said, when asked to explain the more-than-2-to-1 difference. "My grandkids would lose their college fund. So I'll have to dance around that one. I can't respond to that."

What was clear, however, was that Philadelphia's fouls in the second quarter helped change the game.

"It's kind of discouraging," Holiday said, "But at the same time, we know we just have to keep at it. ... Calls are made and we have to fight through that."

Just like the teams' last regular-season meeting on March 25, the 76ers came out flying. They made eight of



Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade (3) looks for an open teammate past Philadelphia 76ers' Jodie Meeks during the first half of Game 1 of a first-round NBA playoff basketball series, Saturday, April 16, 2011, in Miami.

their first 10 shots, eventually running out to a 25-11 lead. At period's end, it was still 31-19 Philadelphia, on 61 percent shooting compared to 32 percent by Miami.

Miami outscored Philadelphia 35-18 in the second quarter, and kept the lead—though far from easily—the rest of the way.

"No team is just going to lie down," Bosh said. "You're not going to play an 82-game season and work this hard just to lie down when you get there. They're a very gifted team. ... We do expect this series to have all close games. As long as we prepare for that and get that in our minds, we'll be fine."

Since the NBA went to best-of-seven

opening rounds in 2003, No. 2 seeds that win Game 1 of their quarterfinal series have advanced 12 of 13 times, the lone exception being Dallas against San Antonio last year.

And when James and Wade get to enjoy 1-0 series leads, things tend to work out for them. The Heat have advanced all five times when taking a 1-0 lead with Wade on the team; the Cleveland Cavaliers won seven of eight series with James after winning Game 1s.

"It's the postseason," James said. "Just try to do whatever it takes to win."

Brand's rebound and short jumper with 7:58 left got Philadelphia within seven—the margin had been 16 late in the third quarter. And Wade went to the bench 38 seconds later with his fifth foul, but Miami stretched its cushion to 88-75 on a 3-pointer by James Jones, followed by James extending both arms skyward.

It was far from over, though Miami found a way to escape.

"It looked like they were going to run us out," Collins said. "But we fought back."

Bulls 104, Pacers 99

At Chicago, Derrick Rose scored 39 points and Kyle Korver nailed the go-ahead 3-pointer as top-seeded Chicago rallied from a late 10-point deficit to beat Indiana in their playoff opener.

Trailing 98-88 late in the game, the Bulls showed the resolved that carried them to a league-best 62-20 record, outscoring Indiana 16-1 over the final 3:38.

Rose scored seven during that run, including a three-point play and a floater that tied it at 99 with 1:27 left. He then hit Korver with a crosscourt pass for a 3 that gave the Bulls their first lead at 102-99 with 48 seconds remaining.

Danny Granger missed a tying 3. Joakim Noah got the rebound, and Rose eventually hit two free throws with 14.8 seconds remaining. He was 19 of 21 from the line and had six as-

sists and six rebounds in another strong performance.

Luol Deng added 18 points and Korver finished with 13.

Hawks 103, Magic 93

At Orlando, Florida, Joe Johnson scored 25 points and Jamal Crawford finished with 23 as Atlanta beat Orlando in Game 1 of their playoff series, overcoming a big night by Magic star Dwight Howard.

Atlanta was eliminated by Orlando in last year's playoffs in the most lopsided four-game sweep in NBA history, but this one was much different. The Hawks led by as many as 18 points while running multiple bodies at Howard all night, and the rest of the Magic failed to step up.

Howard tied a career high with 46 points, to go along with 19 rebounds. Jameer Nelson had 27 but no other Orlando player reached double figures.

Game 2 is Tuesday night in Orlando.

Mavericks 89, Trail Blazers 81

At Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored 18 of his game-high 28 points in the fourth quarter as Dallas defeated Portland in Game 1 of their Western Conference first round series.

Even though Nowitzki struggled from the field most of the night, he came through when the Mavericks needed him most.

Nowitzki scored 12 consecutive points in the game-turning spurt in the closing minutes when Dallas tied the game and eventually went ahead to stay.

Jason Kidd added 24 points, including a playoff career-best six 3-pointers.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 27 points for Portland.

Soon after Portland had its largest lead (six points), the Mavericks got back within 72-70 when Nowitzki made two free throws with 4:49 left. His 3-pointer from the right side with 3:40 left to put the Mavs ahead to stay.

Rookie Steele takes one-shot lead at Texas Open

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—PGA Tour rookie Brendan Steele birdied Nos. 17 and 18 for a 4-under 68 on Saturday, grabbing sole possession of the Texas Open lead after beginning the day tied with a whopping six other players for the top spot.

The 28-year-old Californian put his third shot within 15 feet on the par-5 18th, then sunk the putt for his sixth birdie—offsetting a pair of bogeys.

"I decided to play it a little more conservative and laid it up, and it paid off," Steele said of the birdie to end his round.

That late surge was enough for a one-stroke lead over another up-and-commer, second-year PGA Tour pro Cameron Tringale, who led by two after 16 holes but hooked his tie shot on No. 18 into the deep rough—almost reaching a creek. He recovered on the approach, only to miss a 13-foot putt and settle for a 4-under 68.

"I drove it left. I figured if I hit a good drive ... I'd be able to look at it in two, so I just swung hard," said Tringale, who played at Georgia Tech and now lives in Las Vegas.

"I laid up to a pretty good yardage and then just misjudged the wind, re-

ally," he said. "Came up short, which was a bad mistake, given all the room behind the hole."

Third-round winds were calmer but still blew to nearly 30 mph at times, after strong gusts Friday saw the field struggle to a second-round scoring average of 75.289, the highest on Tour since the first-round of the 2008 British Open. Strong winds are forecast once again during Sunday's final round.

"There's going to be good shots that don't end up good and bad shots that end up worse," Steele said.

Another rookie and Californian, Kevin Chappell (70) and 30-year-old Brandt Snedeker (70) were tied for third at 5 under. Steele, Tringale and Chappell, who led UCLA to an NCAA title in 2008, have just a combined 62 starts on tour, while Snedeker's only PGA Tour victory came at the 2007 Wyndham Championship.

"There's a lot of younger players getting on Tour quicker now than there ever has been and I think that's really been the difference," Tringale said. He added that he is still new enough on tour that almost no one pronounces Tringale (Tren-gal-EE) correctly, in-

stead calling him "Triangle" "Tringle" "Trin-nail" "Tri-nail" and a host of other names.

Steele said he's never felt so much pressure on Tour as he will teeing off tomorrow with the lead.

"I definitely haven't been in this position," he said, adding that a win at the 7,435-yard TPC San Antonio "would validate a lot of things in my career as far being a guy that's just trying to feel his way out here right now as a rookie."

Steele began his round tied for first at 3 under with Chappell, Snedeker, Geoff Ogilvy, Rich Beem, Kevin Sutherland and Charley Hoffman. The seven-way tie was the most crowded leaderboard on the PGA tour in a decade.

Seven players tied after 36 holes hadn't been seen on the tour since the 1977 Westchester. The record was an eight-way tie at the 2001 Greater Hartford Open.

Tied for fifth at 4 under after three rounds were Augusta, Georgia-native Charles Howell III, who had four straight birdies on the back nine to complement a birdie and a bogey on



the front.

"You've got a drivable green on 14 that you can get home in two on, so there are some opportunities out here. But I think the play on this golf course is, keep the ball in play and take it when you can get it," Howell said. "It's easy to get in trouble too."

Even with Howell at 4 under was defending Texas Open champion Adam Scott (70) and Pat Perez who tied the mark for Saturday's best round with a 5-under 67 at a tournament whose motto is "Unapologetically Texan."

Souvenirs included white sticks stenciled with the phrase "Quiet, Y'all" and fashioned to look like the more-serious ones reading simply "Quiet" that course officials held up to silence the crowds of spectators before shots.

The Phoenix-born Perez had an Eagle 2 on No. 5, knocking his tee shot on the green and converting a 25-foot putt to complement four birdies and a bogey on the day.

Also shooting 5 under was Sweden-born Fredrik Jacobson, who finished second to Scott here last year, and had seven birdies to offset a pair of bogeys and move to 2 under, tied for tenth.



CLEVELAND

(AP)—Josh Tomlin delivered yet another quality start for Cleveland and Orlando Cabrera drove in four runs as the first-place Indians won their sixth straight home game 8-3 over the Baltimore Orioles on Saturday.

Tomlin (3-0) gave up two runs—solo homers to Jake Fox and Luke Scott—and six hits in six innings.

Cleveland's starters have been making it look easy. In the last 12 games, they're 8-1 with a 1.91 ERA, not bad for a five-man rotation of virtual unknowns.

Shin-Soo Choo homered off Jeremy Guthrie (1-2) and Matt LaPorta had two RBIs for the Indians, who are 10-4 and off to their best start in nine years.

Red Sox 4, Blue Jays 1

At Boston, Josh Beckett had his second straight strong start, holding Toronto to one run over seven innings, and Jed Lowrie provided a spark at the top of Boston's lineup with a two-run homer.

The win snapped a three-game losing streak for the Red Sox, who have the majors' worst record at 3-10.

Travis Snider had an RBI single and stole a pair of bases for the Blue Jays. Toronto lost for the sixth time in nine games.

Beckett (2-1) struck out nine and walked two.

Jo-Jo Reyes (0-2) got the loss.

Royals 7, Mariners 0

At Kansas City, Missouri, Alex Gordon added three hits to his league-leading total and drove in two runs, and Sean O'Sullivan out-pitched Felix Hernandez to lead Kansas City past Seattle.

Mike Aviles had two hits and three RBIs as the Royals beat the Mariners for the third straight day and handed them their 11th loss in 13 games.

O'Sullivan (1-1) threw five shutout innings in his first start of the year. He allowed five hits and two walks, striking out four. He was helped by short-stop Alcides Escobar's run-saving defensive play on a hard-hit grounder by Ichiro Suzuki, who was 0 for 5 and had his Kauffman Stadium hitting streak stopped at 16 games.

Yankees 5, Rangers 2

At New York, Freddy Garcia allowed two hits over six innings in his first start of the season and Mark Teixeira drove in three runs as New York held off Texas.

Garcia (1-0) worked through steady rain showers and gusting winds to shut down the Texas offense. The only hits the veteran right-hander allowed were to Adrian Beltre in the first and David Murphy in the fourth.

Robinson Cano hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning, and Mariano Rivera closed out the ninth for his sixth save.

Derek Holland (2-1) pitched well for Texas, allowing five runs in 7 2-3 innings.

Rays 4, Twins 3

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Ben Zobrist led off the ninth inning with a tying home run off Minnesota closer Joe Nathan (0-1) and Johnny Damon ended the game with a two-out single for Tampa Bay.

B.J. Upton walked and stole second. Nathan was replaced by Jose Mijares after walking Casey Kotchman and getting a flyball from John Jaso.

Mijares struck out pinch-hitter Elliot Johnson for the second out before walking Sam Fuld to load the bases.

Indians pound Orioles, 8-3



Cleveland Indians' Josh Tomlin pitches against the Baltimore Orioles in the first inning of a baseball game Saturday, April 16, 2011, in Cleveland.

AP

Damon then won it on his 2,583rd career hit — which tied him with Ernie Banks for 80th place all-time.

Angels 7, White Sox 2

At Chicago, Tyler Chatwood pitched seven impressive innings for his first major league win and Hank Conger hit a three-run homer to lead the Los Angeles Angels over the White Sox.

After the start was delayed more than 2 hours by rain, the 21-year-old Chatwood (1-1) allowed just one run and five hits. The lone blemish was Carlos Quentin's fifth-inning homer, his third of the season and the 100th of his career.

Howie Kendrick also homered and drove in three runs for the Angels. Leadoff man Maicer Izturis had three hits.

Gavin Floyd (1-1) took the loss, yielding six runs and eight hits over six innings. He threw three wild pitches and allowed hits to the leadoff batter in each of the first four innings.

Athletics 6, Tigers 2

At Oakland, California, Dallas Braden allowed an unearned run in five innings before leaving with stiffness in his pitching shoulder as Oakland beat Detroit for its second home win this season.

David DeJesus and Hideki Matsui had two hits apiece as the Athletics knocked around Tigers ace Justin Verlander (1-2) with five doubles.

The A's, who committed their major league-leading 17th error, dropped the first two games on this homestand and were 1-4 at the Coliseum before ending Detroit's four-game winning streak.

Braden (1-1) struck out five and walked two. He left when his shoulder tightened up after only 67 pitches. Four relievers pitched one inning apiece to complete the six-hitter.

Reds 11, Pirates 2

At Cincinnati, Ramon Hernandez broke

open a close game with his sixth career grand slam as the Cincinnati Reds overpowered the Pirates, sending Pittsburgh to its fifth loss in six games.

Hernandez's fifth-inning homer was his third hit off James McDonald (0-1), who let a tied game get away quickly. The Reds sent 10 batters to the plate for seven runs in the inning, capped by Drew Stubbs' two-run homer.

Jonny Gomes also had a solo shot and a two-run homer. The Reds' four homers matched their season high.

Mike Leake (2-0) was a little off with his control in an unexpected start. He filled in for Edinson Volquez, who was pushed back a day because of a stiff neck. Leake gave up four hits and walked four in six innings.

National League most valuable player Joey Votto had a triple among his three hits, raising his average to .451.

Cardinals 9, Dodgers 2

At Los Angeles, Allen Craig hit a three-run homer as St. Louis defeated the slumping Los Angeles Dodgers to win its fourth in a row and sixth in seven games.

It was the seventh straight game that the Cardinals scored six or more runs and the first time in six games that they didn't put up at least 14 hits. They had 13, including five straight in the ninth off Ramon Troncoso, to win their third in a row over Los Angeles.

Kyle McClellan (2-0) allowed one run and six hits in seven innings to earn his second major league victory as a starter in six days. He did not walk a batter.

Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw (2-2) labored through 4 2-3 innings. The left-hander gave up five runs and six hits, struck out a season-low five and walked a season-high five.

Braves 4, Mets 2, 1st game**Braves 4, Mets 0, 2nd game**

At Atlanta, Jair Jurrjens threw seven

sharp innings in his return from the disabled list as Atlanta shut out struggling New York on two hits to complete a doubleheader sweep.

In the opener, Alex Gonzalez hit two of Atlanta's four solo homers and the Braves finally provided some offense for Derek Lowe.

The Mets were swept in a double-header for the second time in three days to extend their losing streak to seven games, their longest since dropping 11 straight in 2004. Colorado swept the Mets in New York on Thursday.

The Mets (4-11) have matched the third-worst start in franchise history, according to STATS LLC. They opened 3-12 in 1962 and 1964. They also lost 11 of their first 15 games in 1974 and 1981.

New York has lost 10 of 11 after winning three of its first four games under new manager Terry Collins.

Jurrjens (1-0) looked strong in his return from a right oblique strain, facing the minimum 15 batters through five innings. He gave up two hits with one walk and seven strikeouts. George Sherrill and Scott Linebrink finished the two-hitter.

Chipper Jones and rookie Freddie Freeman also homered for the Braves in the opener. Lowe (2-2) gave up two runs in six innings and Craig Kimbrel earned his fourth save.

Astros 5, Padres 3

At Houston, pinch-hitter Joe Inglett had a tiebreaking single in the seventh inning as Houston beat San Diego.

With the score level at 3-3, Inglett hit the first pitch from Chad Qualls for an RBI single. Angel Sanchez also had a run-scoring single in the seventh.

Mark Melancon (1-0) entered with runners on first and third in the seventh and got Orlando Hudson to hit a low fly to left. Carlos Lee made a diving catch to keep the score tied.

Brandon Lyon got his third save in

four chances. Chris Johnson hit a two-run homer for the Astros.

Mat Latos (0-2) pitched 6 1-3 innings for the Padres.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 3

At Phoenix, Freddy Sanchez doubled home the tying run in the sixth inning, then put San Francisco ahead for good with a two-run single in the seventh and the Giants won their fourth in a row by beating Arizona.

San Francisco starter Barry Zito sprained his right foot lunging for a bunt in the second inning and left the game. Giants reliever Guillermo Mota pitched a career-long 4 1-3 innings to get the victory. Mota (1-0) allowed one run and three hits, striking out four with no walks.

The Diamondbacks tied a franchise record by converting five double plays to erase a big share of San Francisco's 13 hits.

Buster Posey hit an early two-run homer off Joe Saunders (0-3), who gave up five runs and 12 hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Cubs 8, Rockies 3

At Denver, Casey Coleman scattered four hits while working into the sixth inning and Starlin Castro went 4 for 5 with a three-run homer as Chicago snapped Colorado's seven-game winning streak.

Alfonso Soriano also went deep for the Cubs, who had 17 hits and ended a six-game skid at Coors Field that dated to Aug. 9, 2009.

The Rockies, who were missing Carlos Gonzalez (soreness) and Todd Helton (rest) from their starting lineup, hadn't been blown out all year, losing just twice in their first 13 games, both in extra innings.

Jason Hammel (1-1) became the first Colorado starter to lose this season, allowing three runs and seven hits over six innings.

Shimgawa wins Texas Hold'em tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

TINIAN—Tinian-resident Daigo Shimgawa topped a field of 32 players in Saturday's Weekend Island Getaway Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino and took home \$930 cash prize.

Luisa Atalig of Saipan finished second in her debut and was awarded with \$465. Tinian's Kouchi Dai-Hei finished third place and won \$155, while his buddy, Jeong Hyung Sung,

snuck into fourth place to break even with a \$50 prize as a result of a questionable decision by the fifth place finisher, whose name was not disclosed.

At the final table with the blinds set at \$1,000 and \$2,000 with a \$300 ante, Atalig, who was the chip leader along with the fifth place finisher for the majority of the event, became involved with a big pot that perhaps should have never taken place.

Notably Sung had only \$1,200 left after paying his big blind and was about to toss them in because

of the constant pre-flop bullying by the bigger stacks, but he sensed trouble and jokingly said he will just wait for the next hand, as he folded out with peanuts.

However, the two high rollers refused to back down from one another and fired bullet after bullet until a fourth club appeared as the final river card.

That's when the fifth place player went all-in and was called instantly by Atalig who already had a flush on the turn. The eliminated player turned over a straight after Atalig all but told

him she had a flush, but to be fair the gracious gambler was a first-timer with no past Texas Hold'em poker experience.

Atalig, on the other hand, plays frequently with her family and friends, but never entered into an organized event.

Pound-for-pound, she played well and knocked out the most players in the tournament, but made two costly mistakes in heads up play against Shimgawa.

Atalig stole a lot of blinds with multitude of raises before the flop, until Shimgawa called her with



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino's Weekend-Island Getaway Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament winner Daigo Shimgawa, right, poses with casino operations manager Sharju KC, left, and third place finisher Koichi Dai-Hei after the event on Saturday.

LOPEZ

From Page 28

duel versus Heras, who beat Emily Jones in the other semis tiff, 6-2, 6-2. Jones drew a bye in the first round, while Heras was paired against Tiffany Madlambayan and won, 6-1,

6-1. Ackerman also played in the first round and downed Liza Atalig, 6-1, 6-0, while Lee had a bye before withdrawing from the semis in the second set.

In the girls U10 singles, only four players from the 10-player draw were left standing. Julia Ishikawa made

it to the semis after an 8-0 win over Hana Nelson. Battling Ishikawa in the semis of the upper half draw is Malika Miyawaki, who edged Catherine Atalig, 8-3.

The lower half of the draw will have Tania Tan squaring off against Ami Tsukagoshi in the semis. Tan won over Grace

Choi, 8-4, to advance to the semis Tsukagoshi, who ousted Sally Hwang, 8-4.

The semis and championship games in the girls singles and doubles divisions will be played this weekend. Results of the boys draws will be published in *Saipan Tribune's* Tuesday issue.

JETS

From Page 28

Rays outlasted IT&E (3-6), 6-4, while the Natibu Tanapag Falcons (2-3) knocked off sister team Braves (0-8), 12-1.

Majors division action resumes today at 4pm with a make-up game between Happy Market Ol'Aces (3-5) and &E (6-4). Other make-up matches include the Little Legals taking on the Rep. Joe P. DLGuerrero-Tan Siu Lin-Mke P.Tenorio Dandan Comets (4-4) tomorrow and IT&E facing the Falcons on Wednesday.

Jets 8, IP&E Strikers 0

The Jets took an early 2-0 lead in the top of the second off a passed ball and an RBI grounder by Franklin Lizama.

Then Jets' pitcher Nathan Camacho notched his sixth strikeout in the bottom frame after a leadoff walk, and his team jumped ahead, 5-0, in the top of the third off a the-run homer by Ben Maratita.

Jets' Camacho struck out the side in the bottom frame and was driven home by teammate Harvey in the top of the fourth inning. Camacho reached off a one-out double.

Camacho sat down the first two batters before being pulled for plunking the next three batters in a row in the top of the fifth. Reliever Maratita came to the mound and got the Jets out of the jam. Then Jets' Lizama delivered his team's final two runs with a double in the top

half of the fifth.

Camacho went three and two-thirds scoreless innings with a pair of walks, three bean balls, and 11 strikeouts.

Docomo A's 6, IT&E 4

Docomo A's took a 2-0 lead in the bottom for the second off an error and an RBI grounder by Nathan Nogis. They added two more runs in the bottom of the third off a pair of doubles by Justin Lisua and Christian Lizama.

Then Nogis lifted a sacrifice fly and teammate Donavin Ada smashed an RBI single in the bottom half of the fourth

IT&E threatened with a four-run rally in its final stand, but showed up a little late to the contest.

Winning pitcher Anthony Agluto allowed an earned run in five and two-thirds innings off two hits and two walks with 10 strikeouts.

Rays 12, Docomo A's 3

Rays struck first in the opening frame off a pair of RBI singles by Peterson Rengiil and J.J. Taisacan. However, the A's answered in the bottom of the second and pulled ahead, 3-2, off an error and a two-RBI triple by last batter Hyun Joung Ahu.

Then Rays' Jay Kalen led off with a single and stole home to tie the game in the top of the third inning. Then after a quiet fourth, Rays' top of the order gashed a seven-run inning in the fifth and shot ahead, 10-3, off five hits, a walk, a couple fielder's choices and some errors. J.D. Delos Santos, Rengiil, Jose

Pangelinan, and Tasi Corpuz smashed RBI singles.

Rengiil batted 4-for-4 with two RBIs, two runs and three stolen bases. Winning pitcher Delos Santos went all six and allowed two earned runs off five hits and a walk with eight strikeouts.

Falcons 12, Braves 1

The Falcons got on top early thanks to a triple by Donn Malwelbug and a double by Logan Martin that gave them a 2-0 lead in the top of the first.

Falcons then broke open the game with seven runs to start the second off five hits, two walks, a fielder's choice, and errors. Five runs scored off errors, Ace Evangelista ripped an RBI single, and Malwelbug stole home in the inning.

The Braves managed their sole run off a fielder's choice in the bottom frame, but could not extend the game past four innings.

Winning pitcher Matt Hamilton allowed one earned run in four innings off three hits and four walks with six strikeouts.

Enforcers 19, McDonald's 4

McDonald's started well and managed three runs off errors and an RBI single by starting pitcher George Pangelinan in the top of the first inning. However, Enforcers pulled within a run in the bottom frame off an error and an RBI base rip by Cedric Camacho.

Although McDonald's failed to score to start the second, Pangelinan struck out the side

in the bottom frame. Then McDonald's got caught in a double lay to end the top half of the third and Enforcers shot ahead, 10-3, in the bottom frame off five hits, three walks and some errors. Seven runs resulted from errors and Leo Williams busted a clean RBI single.

McDonald's managed a run off an error in the top of the fourth, but Enforcers poured on nine more runs in the bottom half to secure the run-rule victory. In that inning, Henry Lizama led off with a homer, Joaquin Saralu and Ethan Lizama hammered RBI singles, and both Saralu and Cedric Camacho busted RBI triples in their second at bats; Williams also stole home and the other runs scored off errors.

Red Sox 24, Little Legals 0

The Red Sox laid down the lumber on the Little Legals to say the least and took a 5-0 lead right off the bat off six hits.

They added nine more runs in the second inning off four hits, a double by Jonathan Sagun, and a bunch of errors; Sagun also belted a two-RBI single in the opening frame.

Five of the nine runs came home off errors, two off passed balls, Jadrien Camacho ripped a RBI single, and Jobe Reyes stole home in the inning.

The Legals did not answer in the bottom half and after the Red Sox piled on 10 more runs in the top of the third, the game was called off via mercy rule-decision.

9 TEAMS

From Page 28

will be played immediately after the parade of squads. Teams playing in the opening day will be determined through a raffle drawing. The opening rites will begin at 6pm.

Only three slots are avail-

able for interested teams. The deadline to sign up has been extended to April 20. The final rosters and \$400 entrance fee must also be provided by this time.

After the season opener, two games a night are expected to run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in Garapan, starting at 6pm. The second game is

scheduled at 8pm.

In addition, QQ Cup organizers are planning to showcase an All-Star game after the tournament's elimination round, a 3-point shooting contest, and a 12U youth exhibition game during the halftime of the championship match.

"This season, we want to showcase not only basketball

talents and skills, but more importantly, players' attitudes toward the game," tournament director Rey Perez said.

Meanwhile, teams interested in joining the QQ Cup must submit their letter of intent and rosters through email to qqcarrentalcup@yahoo.com or to Marlon Sison at 989-6463 or Perez at 989-8759.

BATALLONES

From Page 28

Yoon Kim logged an 80 to beat Yuko Togawa and Kimiko Abe.

Meanwhile, Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz thanked all the golfers, volunteers, and supporters of the tournament. "We have over 80 golfers this year, surpassing last year's number. We were very grateful to all the golfers and sponsors, as despite of these trying times, they still came out and

support this cause," said Dela Cruz, adding that proceeds from the tournament will be used for the repairs of the San Jose Parish Church.

"We hope to see them next year for a bigger Tinian Mayor's Cup," added Dela Cruz, who personally thanked Fiesta Resort & Spa's Das Krishnan for overseeing the tournament and the event's banquet.

The Tinian Mayor said they are hoping to raise around \$6,000 from the weekend tournament.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	8	5	.615	—
Toronto	7	7	.500	1 1/2
Baltimore	6	7	.462	2
Tampa Bay	6	8	.429	2 1/2
Boston	3	10	.231	5

Central Division

Cleveland	10	4	.714	—
Kansas City	10	4	.714	—
Chicago	7	7	.500	3
Detroit	7	8	.467	3 1/2
Minnesota	4	10	.286	6

West Division

Texas	10	4	.714	—
Los Angeles	9	5	.643	1
Oakland	7	8	.467	3 1/2
Seattle	4	11	.267	6 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	9	4	.692	—
Florida	8	5	.615	1
Atlanta	7	8	.467	3
Washington	6	7	.462	3
New York	4	11	.267	6

Central Division

Cincinnati	9	5	.643	—

<tbl_r cells="5

Weekend Sports

It was a crowning week for tennis and badminton players, while other leagues and tournaments continued their competitions.

In the rain-delayed Week 2 of the 11th Annual PIC Tennis Championships, Jeff Race won the centerpiece men's open singles division title against Peter Loyola, while Thea Minor topped the women's open.

Also prevailing in the second week of the annual tournament were Christian Miller, Tammy Ackerman, and Carl Dela Cruz. Miller and Dela Cruz took the men's 4.0 and 3.0 singles crowns, respectively, while Ackerman nailed the women's 3.0 singles title.

In the 2011 Tan Holdings Mixed/Doubles Badminton Competition,

Champions crowned

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

nine pairs went home with the championship. The list includes the teams of Windy Fernandez and Chris Obaldo, Father Charlie Borja and Jerome Malasarte, Ferdie Arago and Jerry Hibi, Toshiko Obata and Hanna Choi, Gary Bandoja and Oh Imbog, So Young Lee and Heo in Souk, Guintu and Choi, Hibi and Lucelle Lampera, and Elna Curate and Luis Camacho.

Other notable events last week were the Round the Crown Bike Race for Japan Relief, the fundraiser and friendly game between Keio University Women's Soccer Club and the CNMI Women's National Team, R.J. Macaranas' acceptance to the Tiger Woods Foundation National Junior Golf Team, the DFS goodwill tournament, and the announcement of closure of the Gilbert C.

Ada Gymnasium.

In the Japan Relief MTB race, Butch Sublemente was the overall finisher with his time of 56 minutes and 17 seconds, while Mieko Carey was the second overall and first female with her 59:56.

In the friendly football game at the Oleai Sports Complex Field, Keio shut out the CNMI female strikers, 6-0.

Macaranas was one of the 15 junior golfers chosen on the elite Tiger Woods team and will be participating in the foundation's year-round activities.

In softball, DFS Guam edged DFS Saipan in a best-of-three game, 2-1, to win the DFS goodwill championship for the second time.

The Ada gym will be closed at the end of this month until September so affected parties are encouraged to look for alternative venues for their competitions.

Meanwhile, other leagues continued with their games last week. They were the Little League and Saipan Major League baseball, Chamolinian and Belau softball, the NMIFA men's and youth spring leagues, and the Miller Lite caging.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Negahr Rastguiy, left, and Colin Ramsey exchange hi-fives after scoring a point against Tammy Ackerman and Fil Kalen in the mixed 3.0 doubles event in the PIC tournament at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Bikers wait for the start of the Round the Crown Bike Race for Japan Relief at the paved parking lot of Mt. Tapochao.



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
The Ol'Aces' A.J. Lizama swings during a game in the Senior League at the Francisco 'Tan Ko' Palacios Ballfield.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Father Charlie Borja reaches for the shuttlecock during his and Jerome Malasarte's championship game against Eydie Uy and Noel Wong in the Tan Holdings badminton tournament at the REM Center.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

CNMI goalie Rebecca Schroeder kicks the ball during their friendly game against Keio University Women's Soccer Club at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Heat get a late scare, top 76ers in Game 1

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports



Champions crowned

PAGE 27

28 MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Lopez enters finals of CNMI jr. tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The diminutive Mikayla Lopez broke into the finals of two divisions in the 2011 CNMI Junior Championships after the over the weekend games at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Lopez first clinched a championship berth in the girls U18 singles after posting twin wins over the weekend. She defeated Melody Johnson in her first game, 6-3, 6-3, and then downed Theecel Minor in the semifinals, 6-7, 6-1, 6-3.

Lopez's victory over Theecel Minor foiled a sisters duel in the U18 singles finals, as Thea Minor booked the other finals berth. The younger Minor drew a bye in the quarterfinals and then shut out Amy Arenovski in the semis, 6-0, 6-0, to advance to the finals. Arenovski gained a semis entry after a 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 triumph over Ilia Corella.

In the girls U15 singles, Lo-

pez also made it to the finals after topping Adele Hudkins in the semis, 6-0, 6-2. Lopez will be up against fellow diminutive player Negahr Rastguiy, who survived Johnson in three sets, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. Hudkins challenged Lopez in the semis after a 6-4, 7-5 win over Jazmin Rayphand, while Johnson and Rastguiy had a semis face-off after prevailing over Jeanne Bracken (walkover) and Alina Ishikawa, 6-0, 6-1, respectively.

In the girls U12 singles, it will be Tammy Ackerman against Isabel Heras. Ackerman defeated Carol Lee, 6-1, 1-0 (retired) to set up a title

See LOPEZ on Page 26



Mikayla Lopez goes for a return near the net during her and Melody Johnson's U15 doubles game against Negahr Rastguiy and Tammy Ackerman in the 2011 CNMI Junior Championships yesterday at the AMP tennis courts.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Batallones hoists Tinian Mayor's Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rene Batallones topped the 2nd Annual Tinian Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament, besting over 80 golfers on Saturday at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

Batallones shot a net 73.4 to win the double-peoria tournament. He went home with a replica of the Tinian Mayor's Cup perpetual trophy and \$500.

The fundraising tournament also recognized the Top 3 placers in five flights, but only the first finisher in each division received cash prizes.



Rene Batallones, left, receives the Tinian Cup perpetual trophy from Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz during the awards ceremony for the 2nd Annual Tinian Mayor's Cup golf tournament at Coral Ocean Point.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jong Won Lee ruled the Championship Flight with his even par 72 and went home with \$300. Former Superior Court presiding judge Edward Manibusan and Nick Sablan rounded out the Top 3.

In the A Flight, Steve Jang carded a 5-over par 77 to win first place and \$300 against Freddie Cataluna and Yong Bae.

Kim Yong drilled a gross 84 at the Agingan Point course to prevail in the B Flight against Ed Tenorio and Art Camacho, while the C Flight title went to Sen. Pete Reyes, who tallied a gross 86. Completing the Top 3 in the C Flight were Tony Sablan and John Cruz.

In the Ladies Flight, Jeong

See BATALLONES on Page 26

Jets still atop Majors, shut out IP&E Strikers

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The league-leading Juan S. Tenorio-Santiago Jets stretched their undefeated streak to eight after an 8-0 shutout victory over the IP&E Strikers, as the Saipan Little League Majors division season continued over the weekend at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.



Ray's (6-2) defeated Docomo A's (4-3), 12-3. On Sunday,

See JETS on Page 26



Juan S. Tenorio-Santiago Jets' Nathan Camacho, seen here delivering a pitch, went three and two-thirds scoreless innings with 11 strikeouts in their 8-0 win over the IP&E Strikers in the Majors division game last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

9 teams confirmed for 2nd QQ Cup

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nine teams have already registered for the 2nd Annual QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup Invitational that is expected to start on April 30 at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The list includes inaugural champion Docomo/Mobil, runner-up Ferrera Builders, Kon-

flikt, Cell-Pro, Smart Cagers, Blue Hauz, Sonics, and Rollers Basketball Clubs' A and B squads. Docomo/Mobil won the inaugural QQ Cup after sweeping Ferrera Builders in the best-of-three finals.

Presence of all teams are requested in next Saturday's opening ceremony, as the first game

See 9 TEAMS on Page 26



Ferrera Builders' Kae Bernardo drives to the baseline against a Docomo player during Game 1 of their championship series in last year's QQ Cup at the Garapan Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO